

HOUSES FOR THE FARM-WORKER

JUL 29 1943

# COUNTRY LIFE

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# COUNTRY LIFE

VOL. XCIV. No. 2424

JULY 2, 1943

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*in direction of the Executors of the late Sir John F. Drughorn, Bart.*

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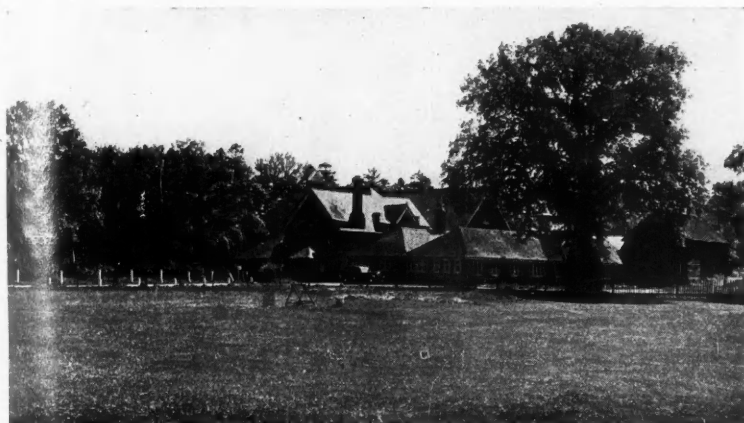
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Sale will shortly be available from the  
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8, Hanover Street, London, W.1  
(Tel.: Mayfair 3316/7),

and at Northampton, Leeds, Cirencester,  
Yeovil and Dublin.

Solicitors: Messrs. WALTONS & Co.,  
101, Leadenhall Street, London, E.C.3  
(Tel.: Avenue 1555).

## ON WIMBLEDON COMMON

Station 1 mile. Secluded situation on high ground.

### AN UNSPOILT EARLY GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

WITH WELL-PROPORTIONED ROOMS.

Hall, 3 reception rooms, maids' room, 2 staircases, 2 bathrooms, 8 bedrooms.

CENTRAL HEATING THROUGHOUT. ALL MAIN SERVICES.

GARAGE. STABLE.

CHARMING OLD WALLED GARDENS.

PRICE £5,500 FREEHOLD

Inspected by: JACKSON STOPS & STAFF, 8, Hanover Street, London, W.1.  
(Tel.: Mayfair 3316/7.)

By direction of Messrs. E. F. Meering, Limited.

## NEAR BATTLE, SUSSEX

Hastings 5 miles. Bezhill 8 miles. A magnificent position overlooking Pevensey Bay.  
FREEHOLD, with VACANT POSSESSION ON COMPLETION  
A COMPACT DAIRY AND MIXED FARM

KNOWN AS

### THE PARK FARM, CROWHURST

Situate in the Parishes of Crowhurst and Hollington, and consisting of:

SUBSTANTIAL 6-BEDROOMED FARMHOUSE, AMPLE FARM BUILDINGS,  
3 COTTAGES.

and approximately 262 ACRES

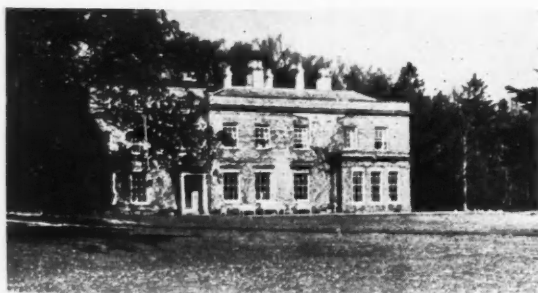
Will be offered for SALE by AUCTION (unless previously sold privately) at  
the GEORGE HOTEL, BATTLE, on MONDAY, JULY 5, 1943, at 2.30 p.m.  
Particulars (price 6d. each) of the Auctioneers: JACKSON STOPS & STAFF, 8, Hanover  
Street, London, W.1 (Tel.: Mayfair 3316/7), and at Northampton, Leeds, Cirencester  
and Yeovil. Solicitors: Messrs. BIRCHAM & Co., 46, Parliament Street, London,  
S.W.1 (Tel.: Whitehall 4002).

Grosvenor 3121  
(3 lines)

## WINKWORTH & CO.

48, CURZON STREET, MAYFAIR, LONDON, W.1

### HANTS



AN ESTATE OF 745 ACRES WITH A MODERATE SIZED GEORGIAN  
COUNTRY HOUSE IN A PARK FOR SALE FREEHOLD. THE HOUSE  
HAS BEEN MODERNISED AND THOROUGHLY REPAIRED AND THERE  
ARE AMPLE BUILDINGS AND COTTAGES.

Full particulars and photos of the Sole Agents: WINKWORTH & Co., 48, Curzon  
Street, Mayfair, London, W.1.

### SUFFOLK

Between Saxmundham and Beccles, near a railway station, small town, Post Office and  
shops.

### ATTRACTIVE COUNTRY RESIDENCE FOR SALE (FREEHOLD)

Containing 8 bed and dressing  
rooms, 2 bathrooms, and (in  
addition) 4 rooms which can  
be used or not as required.  
Outer and inner halls, lavatory  
with cloakroom, 3 reception  
rooms, and excellent domestic  
offices, including servants' hall.  
Electric light. Main water.  
Central heating. 2 excellent  
garages for 2 cars. Cottage.  
Laundry.

THE GROUNDS ARE VERY  
ATTRACTIVE AND WELL  
TIMBERED AND OF OLD-  
WORLD CHARACTER.  
EXCELLENT KITCHEN  
GARDEN WITH RANGE OF  
GLASS AND GRASS FIELD.



IN ALL ABOUT 10 ACRES  
PRICE FREEHOLD £3,600

Particulars and Order to View of the Agents: Messrs. WINKWORTH & Co., 48, Curzon  
Street, Mayfair, London, W.1.

### BERKS

Ascot and Windsor district. High ground. Magnificent views.

A WELL-FITTED MODERN HOUSE, on an old site with grand old cedar and other trees. 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms,  
3 reception rooms, loggia. Main water, gas and electricity. Main drainage. Garage for 2 cars. Gardens of 3½ ACRES,  
including kitchen garden. Personally inspected and recommended by the Agents: WINKWORTH & Co., 48, Curzon Street, London, W.1.



# KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

By direction of the Executors of the late Sir Max Bonn, K.B.E.

## WEST SURREY AND SUSSEX BORDERS

BETWEEN GUILDFORD AND PETWORTH

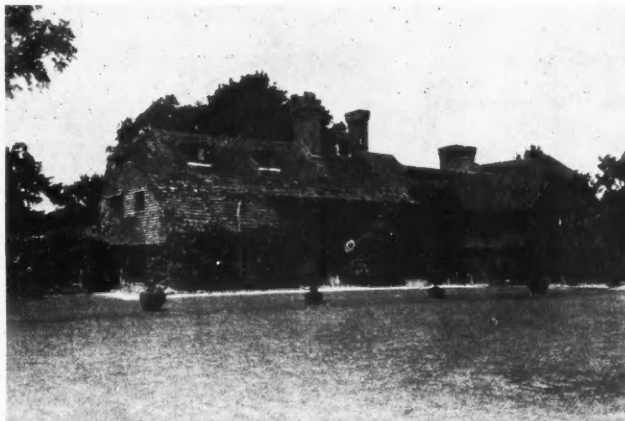
In the Chiddingfold, Dunsfold and Alfold District.

THE FREEHOLD RESIDENCE

## UPPER IFOLD AND MERROW FARM OF 283 ACRES



UPPER IFOLD ANNEXE.



UPPER IFOLD.

UPPER IFOLD is a charming old Surrey/Sussex Farmhouse, weather-tiled and partly roofed with Horsham stone tiles, skilfully enlarged and completely modernised to contain entrance and garden hall, 2 reception rooms, cloakroom, offices and servants' hall, 4 principal bedrooms, 4 principal bathrooms, 4 other bedrooms and servants' bathroom. The House contains a wealth of old oak timber.

A GUEST HOUSE or ANNEXE, contains: Lounge, dining room, 4 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. Companies' water. Main electric light and modern drainage to both houses. Garage for 4 cars and chauffeur's cottage. BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS, taking full advantage of adjoining woodlands and natural features and including swimming pool, tennis court and kitchen garden.

MERROW FARM, a secondary old-world Farm Residence, modernised and containing: Hall and lounge, 2 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, offices and servants' sitting room. Central heating. Modern drainage. Main water and electricity. Garage. Stabling and gardener's cottage.

180 Acres of sound Pasture and Arable Land, interspersed with 80 Acres of woods, the whole forming an attractive sporting property, intersected for nearly a mile by the upper waters of the River Arun.

MODERN BAILIFF'S BUNGALOW, with Norfolk reed thatched roof and containing 5 rooms and bathroom.

VACANT POSSESSION of the whole on completion, with the exception of Merrow Farmhouse, which is let off with a cottage and about 7½ Acres until 6 months after the war.

To be offered by AUCTION as a WHOLE at 20, Hanover Square, W.1, on Wednesday, July 28, at 2.30 p.m.

Solicitors: Messrs. Herbert Oppenheimer, Nathan & Vandyk, Donington House, Norfolk Street, W.C.2.

Auctioneers: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1.

Mayfair 3771  
(10 lines)

20, HANOVER SQUARE, LONDON, W.1.

Telegrams:  
Galleries, Wesdo, London

Regent 0293/3377  
Reading 4441

## NICHOLAS

(Established 1882)

Telegrams:

"Nichanyer, Picoy, London"  
"Nicholas, Reading"

4, ALBANY COURT YARD, PICCADILLY, W.1; 1, STATION ROAD, READING

### "SHEEPCOTE"

WOOBURN GREEN, Near BEACONSFIELD, BUCKS

### SALE OF FURNITURE AND EFFECTS, MONDAY, JULY 19, 1943

Mahogany, Oak and Inlaid Bedroom Suites; Walnut and other Bedsteads; Wardrobes; Dressing Chests; Curtains and Hangings in Silk, Damask and Tapestry; Turkey, Axminster and Brussels Carpets; Persian, Skin and other Rugs.

Chesterfields, Sofas and Ottomans; Lounge and other Chairs; Writing, Card and Display Tables; a 6-ft. Mahogany Sideboard; Dining Table and Buffet; 3 Safes, by Chubb; Timepieces; Electric Fans; Standard and Reading Lamps; a quantity of Decorative Porcelain; Georgian and other Silver and Plate; Oil Paintings and Water-Colour Drawings, Prints and Engravings.

Catalogues (price 6d. each) of the Auctioneers: Messrs. NICHOLAS, 4, Albany Court Yard, Piccadilly, W.1, and at Reading.

### HERTFORDSHIRE

High up in the beautiful Ashridge country, facing South, with magnificent views.

### FOR SALE—COMFORTABLE MODERN HOUSE

4 bedrooms (3 with basins), bathroom, hall, 2 reception rooms. Company's water. Electric light. Central heating. 2 garages. Loose box. INEXPENSIVE GARDENS.

3 ACRES £4,750

4 ACRES EXTRA RENTED ADJOINING.

Messrs. NICHOLAS, 4, Albany Court Yard, Piccadilly, W.1.

### NORTH WILTSHIRE

4 miles from Chippenham in small village. Bus service.

### STONE-BUILT HOUSE

6 bedrooms (3 with basins), 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms. Main electricity and water. Central heating. Garage. Stabling. OLD-WORLD GARDENS and ORCHARD.

3 ACRES £4,500

Messrs. NICHOLAS, 4, Albany Court Yard, Piccadilly, W.1.

3, MOUNT ST.  
LONDON, W.1.

## RALPH PAY & TAYLOR

Grosvenor  
1032-33

### WILTSHIRE

Adjoining pretty village on Bus Route.  
A SINGULARLY CHARMING  
SMALL PERIOD HOUSE

SYMPATHETICALLY RESTORED  
AND MODERNISED.

7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception  
rooms.

Main electricity. Company's water.  
Main drainage. Central heating.  
FIRST-CLASS OUTBUILDINGS

including  
8 LOOSE BOXES. GARAGE.  
QUAINT OLD STONE-BUILT  
COTTAGE. LARGE BARN.

DELIGHTFUL INEXPENSIVE  
GARDENS. HARD TENNIS  
COURT. KITCHEN GARDEN.

About

2½ ACRES  
FOR SALE FREEHOLD  
POSSESSION SEPTEMBER  
NEXT

Personally recommended by the Sole  
Agents: RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as  
above.

### FARMS FOR SALE

### BETWEEN WINCHESTER AND SALISBURY

HIGHLY ATTRACTIVE RESIDENTIAL FARM  
OF 80 ACRES. CLASS "A" LAND (additional  
80 Acres rented). GENTLEMAN'S RESIDENCE.  
Wonderful position. Fine views over Test Valley. 5 bed-  
rooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception. Bailiff's house. Model  
farm buildings. Main electricity. Ample water supply.  
All in first-class order. **FOR SALE WITH POSSESSION.**  
WOULD BE SOLD AS A GOING CONCERN IN-  
CLUDING CONTENTS OF RESIDENCE.

### BUCKS—BETWEEN AYLESBURY AND BLETCHLEY

CAPITAL DAIRY FARM OF 60 ACRES. (HALF  
RICH PASTURE AND HALF ARABLE). Cottage  
residence, 3 bed, bath, 2 reception, main electricity, Co.'s  
water, first-class buildings. Cow-ties for 26. Tithe free.  
No land tax. **FREEHOLD £6,500. POSSESSION**  
MICHAELMAS NEXT.

Details of above apply: RALPH PAY & TAYLOR,  
3, Mount Street, W.1.





# HAMPTON & SONS

6, ARLINGTON STREET, ST. JAMES'S, S.W.1  
Regent 8222 (15 lines)      Telegrams: "Solaniet, Piccy, London."



## A LOVELY CORNISH MANOR

*Ideally situate on the Coast 5 miles from Falmouth.*

### TREROSE MANOR, MAWNAM



AN EXCEEDINGLY INTERESTING HOUSE OF THE XVIIIth CENTURY

Carefully modernised and fitted with every possible convenience.

Delightful drawing room, lounge, dining room, panelled library, 6 bedrooms, 2 dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms. Company's electric light. Garage for 2. Bungalow cottage. Beautiful Semi-Tropical Gardens.

the whole extending to about

**2½ ACRES**

HAMPTON & SONS have received instructions to offer the above for SALE by AUCTION at the ROYAL HOTEL, FALMOUTH, on TUESDAY, JULY 20, 1943, at 3 p.m. (unless previously disposed of).

Illustrated particulars can be had from the Solicitors: Messrs. MORRELL, PEEL AND GAMLEN, 1, St. Giles, Oxford. Or the Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1. (Tel.: REG. 8222.)

## IN THE CAMBERLEY DISTRICT

*Near a pretty common and old-world village. 3½ miles main line station. Golf in the vicinity.*

### COUNTRY RESIDENCE OF CHARM



Hall and cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, 2 dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms. All main services. Central heating. Garage. Stabling.

MATURED GROUNDS WITH TENNIS LAWN, PRODUCTIVE KITCHEN & FRUIT GARDEN.

**1½ ACRES IN ALL**

**PRICE FREEHOLD £5,500**

JUST ON THE MARKET.

Particulars from: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1. (Tel.: REG. 8222.)

## CORNWALL

*In the favourite fishing village of Mousehole.*

### FOR SALE

### THIS GRANITE-BUILT CORNISH HOUSE



APPEALING TO ARTISTS AND OTHERS.

Studio (22 ft. by 19 ft. in the widest part), 2 reception rooms, 4-5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Companies' electric light and water.

**¼ ACRE OF GARDEN**

**PRICE FREEHOLD £3,200**

Particulars from: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1. (Tel.: REG. 8222.)

## HAMPSHIRE—LYMINGTON

*Charming situation overlooking the Solent. Easy reach of town, yacht club and main line station.*

### MODERN HOUSE OF DISTINCTIVE DESIGN

Hall, 3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms, good offices with servants' hall. GARAGE. STABLING. EXCELLENT COTTAGES.

All main services. Central heating.

MATURED GROUNDS WITH TENNIS AND OTHER LAWNS, PRODUCTIVE KITCHEN GARDEN, ORCHARD, ETC.

**ABOUT 2½ ACRES IN ALL**

PRICE ON APPLICATION. POSSESSION IN DECEMBER NEXT.

Particulars from: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1. (Tel.: REG. 8222.) (H.50,844)

## AT AN UPSET PRICE OF £3,750 BETWEEN NEWBURY AND ANDOVER

*High up amid lovely country. Modernised Manor House.*

### ESSEBORNE MANOR, HURSTBOURNE TARRANT

Inner hall, 3 reception rooms, sun lounge, 7 bedrooms on first floor and 3 rooms above, 2 bathrooms. Company's electric light. Central heating. "Aga" cooker. Garage. Stabling. Cottage.

**GROUPS, 2 PADDOCKS**

**IN ALL ABOUT**

**10 ACRES**

VACANT POSSESSION.

HAMPTON & SONS, in conjunction with Messrs. F. ELLEN & SONS, offer the above for SALE by AUCTION at ANDOVER, on MONDAY, JULY 19, 1943, at 3 p.m.

Full particulars from the joint Auctioneers: Messrs. F. ELLEN & SONS, Andover, Hampshire; and HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1 (Tel.: REG. 8222.)

## HAYLING ISLAND

*With or without frontage to the beach.*

### FOR SALE. ARCHITECT BUILT HOUSE OF PLEASING DESIGN. FACING SOUTH

Large lounge, dining room, 4 principal bedrooms (all fitted with hand-basins), maids' rooms. Main services.

#### GARAGE.

#### PAVILION

(30 ft. by 13 ft.)

**PRICE £3,750**

or with land opposite, with sea frontage,

**£5,250 FREEHOLD**

The whole extends to between

**2 AND 3 ACRES**



THE PRESENT OWNER WOULD STAY ON FOR DURATION.

Particulars from:

HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1. (Tel.: REG. 8222.) (H.50,842)

## SURREY

*Beautiful Ashted district about 30 minutes by train from City and West End. 1 mile from railway station and close to bus route.*

### TO BE SOLD

### CHARMING MODERN RESIDENCE

500 FT. UP WITH SOUTH ASPECT

3 reception rooms, 8 bedrooms and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms, maids' sitting room, Partial central heating.

Main services and drainage.

2 garages.

DELIGHTFUL GROUNDS OF ABOUT

**3 ACRES**



**PRICE £5,250 FREEHOLD**

POSSESSION SEPTEMBER NEXT.

Particulars from:

HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1. (Tel.: REG. 8222.) (S.31,580)

## DEVONSHIRE

*Attractive situation near Tavistock, on edge of Whitchurch Down. Overlooking the Moors. Sporting and riding district. 1½ miles station.*

### CHARMING COTTAGE RESIDENCE

2 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms (all with wash-basins), bathroom. "Aga" cooker, etc. Own electric light and water. Modern drains. Central heating.

GARAGE. STABLING AND OUTBUILDINGS. 4-ROOMED COTTAGE.

**LOVELY GARDENS OF ABOUT 3 ACRES INCLUDING SOME WOODLAND.**

**PRICE £4,000 TO INCLUDE FURNITURE**

OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO RIDING ENTHUSIASTS.

Particulars from:

HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1. (Tel.: REG. 8222.) (C.49,496.)



5, MOUNT ST.,  
LONDON, W.1.

# CURTIS & HENSON

Grosvenor 3131 (3 lines).  
Established 1875.

## SURREY

Near Sutton and Cheam Stations. Half an hour by train to London.



**EXCELLENTLY DESIGNED IN THE TUDOR STYLE.** 3 reception, 9 bed and dressing rooms (2 en. & c.), 2 bathrooms, 2 staircases. Co.'s electricity, central water. Central heating. Garage. Tennis court. Orchard and kitchen garden. **FOR SALE FREEHOLD.** Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W.1. (16,308)

## NORTH-EAST SCOTLAND

3 miles from Station.

**TO BE SOLD. A RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL ESTATE.** Thousands of pounds recently spent on modernising the house, partly built in the XVth Century. 4 reception rooms, 12 bed and dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms. Main electricity. Central heating. Garage for 6 cars. 4 cottages. Productive and well-stocked gardens. 9 FARMS. Beautifully timbered grounds. Woodlands. Near a famous salmon river. Grouse moor and rough shooting. About **2,000 ACRES.** Particulars from the Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W.1. (16,252)

**SURREY.** London 30 minutes. A Modernised Queen Anne and XIVth Century Residence. Lounge hall, 3 reception, billiards room, excellent offices, 8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Company's electricity and central heating. Garages. 2 cottages. Attractive pleasure gardens. 2 orchards. Stabling and farm buildings. **6 ACRES. FOR SALE OR TO LET UNFURNISHED.**

**SUSSEX.** In Ashdown Forest. 35 miles to London. A beautifully situated Residence, with panoramic views. Near bus route. 3 reception rooms, 10 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, large room with oak floor. Main water and electricity. Central heating. 2 garages. 3 cottages. Wood, rock and water gardens. **11 ACRES. FOR SALE.** Further particulars from: CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W.1. (13,758)

## HERTFORDSHIRE

Near to Station. 40 minutes to London.



**A MODERN RESIDENCE** built of excellent materials. Lounge hall, 2 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. **CENTRAL HEATING. COMPANY'S WATER SUPPLY. GARAGE AND OUTBUILDINGS.** Beautiful grounds, tennis court, sunk lawn, rock and vegetable gardens. Nearly **2 ACRES.** Golf near by. **FOR SALE FREEHOLD.** CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W.1. (16,151.)

23, MOUNT ST.,  
GROSVENOR SQ., LONDON, W.1

# WILSON & CO.

Grosvenor  
1441

## WANTED TO PURCHASE

**A REALLY GOOD HOUSE OF CHARACTER.** Must be up to date and have main services. 8/10 bedrooms, 3/4 bathrooms, etc. Nice matured gardens and about **30-100 ACRES.** WEST SUSSEX preferred or rural SURREY, BERKS, BUCKS. **£20,000 is Available.** Details and photos to Capt. B., c/o WILSON AND CO., 23, Mount Street, W.1.

**WITH OCCUPATION AFTER THE WAR.** A Client of Messrs WILSON AND CO., is anxious to buy now **GEORGIAN or QUEEN ANNE HOUSE** (good modern replica considered). BERKS, OXON or adjoining counties, possibly WEST SUSSEX. 12 bedrooms, at least 4 bathrooms. Land up to **200 ACRES.** Replies in confidence to—G. H. N., WILSON & Co., 23, Mount St., W.1.

## LOVELY GEORGIAN HOUSE

SET WITHIN GARDENS OF RARE CHARM AND SURROUNDED BY A BEAUTIFULLY TIMBERED PARK.

## IN THE MOST BEAUTIFUL PART OF SURREY

About an hour from London.

All in perfect order and up to date. 12 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, etc. Adequate buildings and cottages.

**FOR SALE WITH 300 ACRES (or less land)**

Sole Agents: WILSON & Co., 23, Mount Street, W.1.

## PERFECTLY APPOINTED MODERN HOUSE

Occupying a really magnificent position.

## IN A BEAUTIFUL PART OF SUSSEX

with panoramic views extending for 25 miles.

**BEAUTIFULLY EQUIPPED THROUGHOUT AND IN PERFECT CONDITION WITH EVERY MODERN COMFORT.**

9 bedrooms, 3 dressing rooms, 4 luxurious bathrooms, etc. Garages. Chauffeur's house. Guest cottage and 2 other cottages. IN A LOVELY WOODLAND SETTING, with gardens of singular charm. Fine specimen trees and flowering shrubs, walled kitchen garden, etc. **FOR SALE WITH 21 ACRES.** With immediate possession.

Joint Sole Agents: R. T. INNES, Estate Offices, Crowborough (Tel. 468); WILSON & Co., 23, Mount Street, W.1.



16, ARCADE STREET,  
IPSWICH.  
Ipswich 4334

# WOODCOCKS

30, ST. GEORGE STREET,  
HANOVER SQUARE, W.1.  
Mayfair 5411

## ON THE SURREY/HANTS BORDER

Only 33 miles London. Enjoying rural seclusion.

**DELIGHTFUL SMALL RESIDENTIAL ESTATE.** WELL-ARRANGED **GEORGIAN RESIDENCE.** Contains: 3 reception, 6 principal, 4 other bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, servants' hall, 2 maids' bedrooms and bath-room. All main services. Central heating. Charming garden with swimming pool, tennis lawns, woodland and paddock extending in all to **21 ACRES.** 2 cottages. Stabling for 3. Garage for 2 or 3 cars. Vacant possession by arrangement. **FREEHOLD £14,000 or near Offer.** Inspected and recommended by: WOODCOCKS, 30, St. George Street, W.1. C.4232

**S. WALES BEAUTY SPOT. 54 ACRES** with lake and a mile fishing stream. 7 bedrooms. Hydro-electric lighting. 2 cottages. **FREEHOLD £1,750.** Possession.—WOODCOCKS, 30, St. George Street, W.1. E.6443

## SURREY

22 miles from Marble Arch.

**UNIQUE SMALL COUNTRY DOMAIN** with PLEASURE AND PROFIT FARM. The MARVELLOUS SUPER-MODERN RESIDENCE occupies an altogether exceptional situation in its exquisitely timbered grounds and park, 200 ft. up, with superb views and perfect seclusion. It is medium-sized with every conceivable up-to-date labour-saving contrivance, has 4 superb bathrooms and all main services. There is a wonderful old grotto and temple with marble floor in the grounds, with historical associations. 3 cottages. Model pleasure and profit farm with cowsheds for 28 and

**45 ACRES in all,**

**PRICE FREEHOLD £38,000**

Genuine buyers are invited to inspect the photos at the offices of the Sole Agents—WOODCOCKS, 30, St. George Street, W.1. E.6400

Delightful situation above Frimley Green Village.

## SURREY

1½ miles Frimley Station. London 31 miles.

**VERY DESIRABLE SMALL RESIDENTIAL ESTATE.** WELL-DESIGNED RESIDENCE contains: 3 reception, 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 staff bedrooms. Main electricity and water. Delightful pleasure garden, woodland and large, well-stocked fruit and vegetable garden with valuable building frontages. In all about **14 ACRES.** Picturesque Lodge Cottage. Stabling and garage. Possession September. **FREEHOLD AND FURNITURE, £10,000.** Inspected by: WOODCOCKS, 30, St. George Street, W.1. C.4256

**GLORIOUS MATLOCK DISTRICT. 70-ACRE FARM,** with ½ mile pike fishing on boundary. 2 small but very choice gents' houses (bathrooms, main electricity, etc.). Magnificent set of farm buildings. **FOR SALE WITH POSSESSION.**—WOODCOCKS, 30, St. George Street, W.1. E.6434

# R. C. KNIGHT & SONS

Tel.: 384/5.

MARKET PLACE, STOWMARKET. Also at CAMBRIDGE, NORWICH, HADLEIGH & LONDON

## SUFFOLK

FARMS FOR SALE BY AUCTION IN JULY.

WITH POSSESSION.

**RANDS FARM, LAYHAM, Near HADLEIGH**

**HIGHLY FARMED, OCCUPATION, WITH XVth CENTURY FARMHOUSE, 2 SETS OF PREMISES AND 198 ACRES.**

**HILL HOUSE FARM, BRADFIELD, Near BURY ST. EDMUNDS**

**ATTRACTIVE SMALL FARM, WITH 46 ACRES.**

**POTASH FARM, FRAMSDEN**

**WITH OLD-WORLD HOUSE, BUILDINGS AND 35 ACRES.**

Full particulars (price 3d.), apply the Agents, as above.

## SUFFOLK

Between Ipswich and Stowmarket.

**THE RED HOUSE, BAYLHAM**

**CHARMINGLY APPOINTED MODERN LABOUR-SAVING RESIDENCE**

2 reception rooms,  
5 bedrooms, cloakrooms,  
bathroom.

**SUN LOGGIA.**

**ATTRACTIVE GARDENS AND Paddock.**

**WITH POSSESSION**

**For SALE by AUCTION at Ipswich on JULY 6.**



Illustrated particulars (price 6d.) from the Agents, as above.

Grosvenor 1553  
(4 lines)

# GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

(ESTABLISHED 1778)

25, MOUNT ST., GROSVENOR SQ., W.1

Hobart Place, Eaton Sq.,  
68, Victoria St.,  
Westminster, S.W.1.

## SUSSEX

500 ft. up.



**MODERN STONE-BUILT REPLICA OF AN OLD SUSSEX MANOR HOUSE.** FOR AFTER THE WAR OCCUPATION. 13 bedrooms, nurseries, 5 bathrooms, 3 reception and billiards room. Fitted basins. Central heating throughout. Main services. Ample garages. Stabling. Buildings. 3 cottages. BEAUTIFUL GARDENS and pastureland (mostly let). **35 ACRES IN ALL.** URGENT SALE DESIRED. OFFERS SUBMITTED.

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.1. (D. 2,622)

## 204 ACRE FARM WITH POSSESSION

INCLUDING LIVE AND DEAD STOCK IF REQUIRED.  
SITUATE VERY FERTILE PART OF SOMERSET AND INCLUDING  
**2 MILES TROUT FISHING.**  
OLD-WORLD HOUSE: 7 bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms. Main water.  
**ACCREDITED FARM BUILDINGS.**  
Garages. Cottage (2 more available later).  
**150 ACRES WELL-WATERED PASTURE. 48 ACRES ARABLE.**  
GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.1. (C.7078)

## NEAR WINCHESTER

### GEORGIAN HOUSE IN SMALL PARK

Outskirts of village. Near bus.  
COMPLETELY MODERNISED IN 1939.  
10 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms. 2 garages. 2 cottages. Main services. Central heating. Fitted basins. **23 ACRES.** Comprising beautifully timbered park, tennis court, etc.  
**FOR AFTER THE WAR OCCUPATION. PRESENT NET INCOME £380 PER ANNUM.**  
GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.1. (C.32)

# F. L. MERCER & CO.

SPECIALISTS IN THE DISPOSAL OF COUNTRY ESTATES AND HOUSES  
SACKVILLE HOUSE, 40, PICCADILLY, W.1. REGENT 2481

## A REAL GEM ON THE COTSWOLDS

*Fairford and Cirencester.*  
**A BEAUTIFUL GEORGIAN-STYLE RESIDENCE.** modernised. 3 reception, 8 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Double garage. Stabling. 3 cottages. Exquisite grounds, shrubberies, tennis court, orchard, vegetables and paddock. **12 ACRES. £8,000.**—F. L. MERCER & CO., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

**CHARMING OLD RECTORY IN HERTS.**  
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with lounge hall, 2 reception rooms, 5 bed and dressing  
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Company's electricity. Stabling. Garage.

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## ABOUT 1 ACRE

## FOR SALE FREEHOLD

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In a delightful position overlooking Golf Course and within  
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All main services. Large garage.

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The whole extending to

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For Sale at Moderate Price

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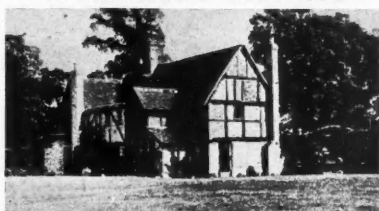
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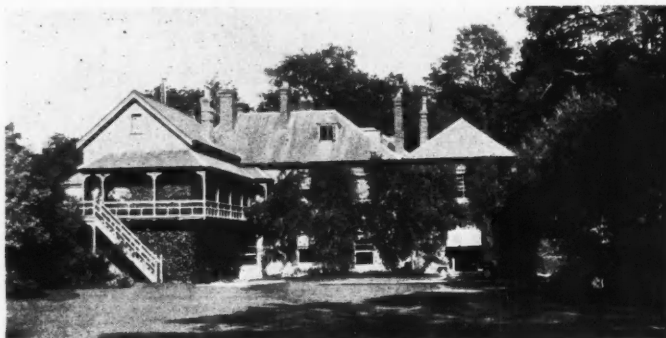
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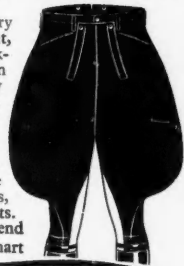
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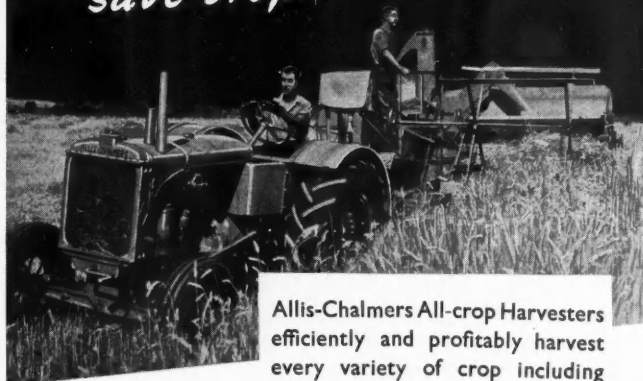
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# Mr. Chase to Mr. Gardener

Pond House, Chertsey. JULY, 1943



DEAR MR. GARDENER,

This month starts the danger time for tomatoes. I wonder how many tons of fruit are lost every year from potato blight? All of this could be saved if people would only spray their plants carefully and often enough. Cloches are only a partial protection against blight. So this year do please make sure that your plants are not infected. All that is necessary is to spray the plants with "Bordeaux" or "Burgundy" mixture thoroughly once every fortnight. Start at once, spraying the undersides as well as the top surfaces of the leaves. Some people seem afraid that the deposit will poison them when they pick the fruit, but it wipes off easily and need cause no alarm.

Southern gardeners can aim at four or five trusses on the main stem and two or three on the subsidiary one. Those who put their plants out in March, can get quite this number of fully-ripened trusses. In the North three or four on the main stem and one or two on the side-shoot is probably nearer the mark. Whether to pinch out the growing point or not requires a specialist's decision, as each plant should be treated on its own merits. In any case, delay until next month.

It is a good plan to give your plants a mulch of peat, peat-humus, or straw. This will help to prevent the moisture being drawn out during the daytime. If you use straw, make sure it is clean stuff. As the season goes on, the feeding rule is "more nitrogen and less potash." Feed by watering-in liquid manure.

For winter parsley, sow now under cloches. Dig the site well, working in well-rotted manure or compost. Sow very thinly and later on thin to 6 ins. apart. The thinnings can be transplanted under cloches. Talking of parsley has reminded me of its effect on green-fly. Some of my friends call it an "old wives' tale," but anyway if I have a severe attack of green-fly on my tomatoes I transplant a sprig or two of parsley here and there and the green-fly go elsewhere. Of course, I take other measures as well, but try it out and let me know what you think.

At the end of July northern gardeners must sow their lettuce for winter supplies. The best varieties are Loos Tennis Ball or May King. Sow very thinly in the open, but arrange your drills so that you can cover them later with the types of cloche you have available. The cloches will be needed in September when the cold weather starts. Thin the plants as soon as they are large enough to handle and transplant the thinnings elsewhere. These will come in later than the plants which remain where they were sown, and so provide a succession.

*W.H. Chase*



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# COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. XCIV No. 2424

JULY 2, 1943



*Harlip*

## THE HON. MRS. MICHAEL ASTOR

Mrs. Astor, who was Miss Barbara McNeill, is the daughter of Mrs. J. Dewar, of Dutton Homestall, East Grinstead, Sussex. Her husband, Captain the Hon. M. L. Astor, is the third son of Viscount Astor and Viscountess Astor, M.P., of Cliveden, Taplow, Buckinghamshire

# COUNTRY LIFE

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The fact that goods made of raw materials in short supply owing to war conditions are advertised in COUNTRY LIFE should not be taken as an indication that they are necessarily available for export.

## THE FARMING MIRACLE

SUNDAY is to be celebrated as "Farm Sunday." While the blessing of Providence on the coming harvest—the greatest in Britain's history—will be asked in many churches, the object of the demonstrations is primarily secular: to bring home to the nation the vital importance of the successful gathering of this year's yield—for which Mr. Hudson has asked for half a million volunteers. It will serve, also, to draw attention to the well-nigh incredible achievement of the farming industry since 1939, the figures for which Mr. Hudson has for the first time made public. Except for vague generalities, these have hitherto been withheld on the score of assisting the enemy—though anything better calculated to discourage him is hard to conceive. The farming miracle, briefly, is that, compared with pre-war figures, in 1942 Britain produced 70 per cent. more food from 2 per cent. less land. Arable increased 33.7 per cent., Tillage (i.e. the arable area without temporary leys) 52.3 per cent. The figures for individual crops were: wheat + 35.6, oats + 72.0, cereals + 65.7, potatoes + 80.4, vegetables + 55.1. Added to this, the percentage of total sugar consumption produced at home rose from 22 to 35—the entire civilian ration; allotments multiplied from 930,000 to 1,675,000, private gardens cultivated for vegetables from 3 to 5 millions. Moreover this year 1,250,000 additional acres of grass land have been ploughed, tillage is expected to have increased by 250,000 acres and the wheat area by a quarter over last year.

On the other hand, except for milk-production, livestock have correspondingly diminished, reflecting the reduction in imported feeding-stuffs (from 8.5 to 1.3 million tons). The figures are: cattle + 4.6, sheep — 17.8, pigs — 51.9. Allowing for the increase in domestic fowls, poultry have diminished by rather under 20 per cent.

These astounding facts would not have been believed possible by most people—those who in the past took the farmer at the face value imposed on him by urban politics, and regarded his workers as the backward boys of the British family. Nor has this revolution involved, as some preachers of mechanical methods believed it must, the transformation of our rural landscape into prairies. It would not have been possible without the immense application of mechanical aids—since the number of regular male workers has actually decreased. But the workers of this miracle—which is really no miracle at all but a superb demonstration of the vitality of the British farmer and, still more, of the British soil—are first and foremost those "backward boys," the men and their women-folk who, through all discouragement, stuck by the land. Now

British farm-workers can stand forth as achieving the highest material output per man of any nation in the world. Their achievement in the hour of our need must never be forgotten, their quality never again be doubted.

## DOWN AND MARSH

THE most amazing fact about the huge increase of war-time agricultural production is the area of land revealed to have been put out of cultivation. In spite of all the reclamation and tillage, there is 2 per cent. less land farmed than in 1939. The balance has been lost, temporarily in most cases let it be hoped, to camps, aerodromes, and factories. It must run into hundreds of thousands of acres for, to take one county alone, East Sussex, some 12,000 acres of downland and marsh have been reclaimed. The County War Agricultural Committee recently showed representatives of the Press something of what has been done, and it is typical of many other areas. Much of the downland—in the neighbourhood of Eastbourne—had been unsuccessfully planted by the Forestry Commissioners. Heavy preparatory work had to be done in clearing thick scrub, and on the high ground the soil was hardly ever more than a few inches deep. For all this, fine crops of wheat and some of oats and barley have been grown and this year the acreage has been greatly extended. On Romney Marsh, the scene of the Committee's other major problem, the trouble was of a different kind. For generations the Marsh has been grazed by sheep and the best pastures fattened a dozen sheep to the acre. The proposal to plough it up raised the countryside against them. To-day however the Marsh presents a scene of wide acreages of wheat, sugar-beet and potatoes, and the late occupiers are taking a keen interest in the new cropping experiments.

## REFLECTIONS: 1942 AND 1943

*AS on these foreign rocks the same voiced sea  
That whispers there to you, talks here to me,  
Or on the hills the sound of water calls,  
Threading my thoughts with silver as it falls,  
To bind the shining of the Syrian stream  
With recollections of the burns that gleam  
By winding Elive, where with lavender eyes  
You watch reflecting for the trout to rise,  
Where Deidre and the sons of Usna played  
That sailed untimely when they could have stayed,  
Or as, in spite of intervening wars,  
An only pattern of triumphant stars  
Over the separate windows of our sight  
Burns in the single ceiling of the night;  
So while behind my lids your image walks  
And in my ears your gentle voice still talks,  
I hold the hope that, each returning spring,  
When the sun is dazzled by your flowering,  
Deep in your petals like a persistent bee  
Dwells at your heart the memory of me.*

BRYAN GUINNESS.

## DIPLOMATIC FURNISHING

THE debate on the reorganisation of the "Foreign Service" should be made the occasion for urging the more appropriate equipment of British embassies and legations abroad. The buildings and their furnishing are the responsibility of the Ministry of Works, but, in the latter function, the Ministry has no resources comparable to that provided for the French *corps diplomatique* by the Garde Meuble. That institution, half warehouse, half museum, is stocked with furniture, pictures, tapestries, and so on, much of it historic, all of it of fine quality, available for equipping embassies and other national requirements in a style reflecting credit on French culture. Something was said in the House about the indignity of Ministers forced to scour the shops for pots and crockery, and Mr. Eden said that measures had been taken which no longer made that necessary. It is equally desirable that our representatives should be able to exhibit in their surroundings something of Britain's artistic stature among the nations. After the war it may be that the closing of many large houses and the dispersal of collections of works of art will provide an opportunity for the State to acquire diplomatic furnishings. An amending clause to the relevant Act enabling part of the Estate Duty to be collected in kind at the discretion of the Fine

Arts Commission would enable the immediate formation of a "Great Wardrobe," as the Tudor kings termed their central store of household stuff.

## THE PEGGOTTY AND THE PICKWICK

THE problem of "Name this child" which constantly demands so much anxious thought from parents has to-day a rival in "Name this ship." The great number of ships now being built is putting a strain on the inventive powers of the nation and the famous names of literature are apparently being prayed in aid. Lovers of Dickens will be glad to learn that there are at this moment under construction *Copperfield*, *Chuzzlewit*, *Peggotty*, and *Pickwick*, that Mr. Dombey is giving his stately name to a tanker, which will have among its sister tankers the *Barkis* and the *Trotwood*. Lest admirers of Thackeray and Scott should be jealous there are likewise being built a *Pendennis* and a *Talisman*. Here is a spring that will never run dry, but some names are unquestionably better than others. There ought surely to be in the ideal name for a ship a suggestion of the feminine. Peggotty for instance, though it was in fact a surname, will probably be held by the non-Dickensians on board to be an affectionate diminutive of Margaret. It would be better if Miss Trotwood's full name were given and the tanker became the *Betsey Trotwood*, even as *Dombey* might have *Florence* in front of it. Captain Cuttle would certainly have thought so and he was a nautical character whose opinion should be listened to with respect. For that matter he might well have a ship called after him, and so might Captain Bunsby and old Jack Barley. Here in fact is a pretty game which Dickensians can play for ever with almost perfect happiness.

## COTTAGE AND CITY

IT is an extraordinary reflection of the times in which we live that discussion of the position and contents of a bathroom in a workman's cottage can occupy as much space in the Press as the replanning of cities. The communities that built the great buildings of the world were not communally interested in the accommodation of the individual. The President of the R.I.B.A. reminded architects recently that it was considered bad form in Athens if even a hero's house was more pretentious than the ordinary citizen's and that Demosthenes upbraided the Greeks for departing from that ancient simplicity. But if the Greeks and Romans, or for that matter the mediæval or Renaissance world, had had plumbing and electricity and health censuses, the precedents would have been different. What this age is attempting to do has never been attempted in history or architecture before. The last generation perfected unprecedented material and mechanical amenities of life. This one is beginning to evolve a new conception of architecture based on the belief that every citizen has a right to these fundamental amenities.

## WITHOUT A THORN

WE are told that after 19 years' hard work there has been produced a new kind of blackberry plant which is named the Merton Thornless. The blackberries are about the size of a shilling, which sounds calculated to make the mouth water, but that which is esteemed more thrilling is the fact that the plants are entirely without thorns. Whether this is really a merit will appear doubtful to the conservative and sentimental. To them blackberries appear the more engaging because they are "set about with little wilful thorns." The memories of blackberrying expeditions would lack something if they did not contain a measure of prickles and scratches. The careful thrusting of the hand through a barbed entanglement of spikes in order to gain a berry of particularly succulent aspect was surely part of the fun. If blackberrying is to become a perfectly safe game into which, to quote Adam Lindsay Gordon's famous jingle,

No accident, no mishap  
Could possibly find its way

we might as well confine ourselves to the currants in the kitchen garden. There is something to be said for honourable scars.





E. W. Tattersall

THE VILLAGE POUND: UPTON GREY, HAMPSHIRE

## A COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES

By

Major C. S. JARVIS

**T**HROUGHOUT the winter and early spring weather prophets, both professional and amateur, have been predicting an abnormally dry and hot summer and they continued their optimistic forecasts until the middle of June, when, making remarks about an unforeseen sun-spot, they began to sing in a minor key and make excuses. Until the time of writing, it has been an abnormally wet and cold summer, and much of the early start we obtained by a mild winter and warm March has been dissipated by chilly rains and low temperature nights.

Whatever the summer may hold for us in the future, it cannot now approach the record of 1911, which was the hottest and driest year I have experienced in this country. In the part of the world in which I lived then, South Dorset, we had, so far as I remember, almost unbroken blazing sunshine from May 20 until September 15 and there was only one day on which rain fell during this long period. This, of course, happened to be the day fixed for our annual regimental sports, when the greater part of the county was in the habit of putting on its best summer frock for the occasion. The rain on this day was incessant, and most efficient so far as spoiling the entertainment was concerned, for strawberry and vanilla ices taste most flaccid in a dripping marquee and no one wants to see the long jump performed by athletes in clinging wet shorts; but the rain was not of the slightest value to the farmers and market gardeners of the district for it soaked into the parched soil to the depth of a quarter of an inch only, and a blazing sun next day dried it out in an hour.

**T**HERE were a number of agricultural freaks in that remarkable year, as some farmers may remember, and a few of these were pleasant, but most of them unfortunate. I recall a very heavy crop of hay which was cut one day and carried on the evening of the next in a bone-dry condition, but also I remember the same hay being laid out in the meadows in August for sheep and grazing stock, because there was not a blade of grass for them to eat

and the grass fields were as brown as fallow land. In September and October I tried to shoot partridges in swede and turnip fields, where the roots would not have passed muster as marketable radishes, and where the coveys could be seen running like Middle Eastern *chikors* at a distance of a quarter of a mile.

**I**NCIDENTALLY it was the first year during which I ran my own vegetable garden, and as a result I subscribed to a number of strange beliefs which were difficult to eradicate and which have never been substantiated since. For instance, I put out in an open spot in early May a dozen tomato plants and left them to it. I began to pick magnificent ripe fruits towards the end of June and the supply continued until the beginning of October without a break. From this I got the impression that I was the most successful tomato grower in the British Isles, and knew more of the management of this easily grown vegetable than any expert horticulturist. Later attempts in other years I may say have quite cured me of this conceit. Then, against the advice of those who knew, I sowed some ordinary Virginian horse-tooth maize which grew to the height of 9 ft. and bore magnificent edible cobs, thus proving to the discomfiture of my friends, and of myself in the following years, that it could be grown quite easily in England in one year in a hundred.

**A**MONG the various comments made in *COUNTRY LIFE* during the last few weeks concerning the unprecedented growth of certain plants on recently disturbed land, a correspondent mentioned the mass of willow herb that he saw among the trenches in Flanders during the last war. It suggests almost that flowers follow the flag. In a small wood close

to my house, where was encamped for some six months an infantry unit which has since distinguished itself in North Africa, there is a most amazing sight, for the whole details of the long-departed camp are now demonstrated according to plan by masses of giant foxgloves.

On the spots where once were slit trenches the flowers stand in dense orderly rows like platoons on parade; among the trees are symmetrical circles of them showing the sites of bell tents with a few outsize ones in the centre where once the tent pole stood; in the small clearings cut among the rhododendrons where the motor transport hid from possible bombing or reconnaissance craft there are solid squares of brilliant mauve; the outline of the rambling officers' mess is picked out in the same colour scheme, though in a somewhat more pronounced and superior tint as befits the special situation; but the star turn of this marvellous floral display is that provided by the Other Ranks (!) cookhouse. Here the foxgloves strive to reach the standard set by the King's Company of the Grenadier Guards, for every plant is over 6 ft. high with the correct upright and martial bearing, while the "officer" in front is a giant of enormous proportions and must be the largest foxglove on record.

**T**HE East Surrey Regiment, now somewhere among the olives and palms of North Africa or the Middle East, may like to know that besides registering for themselves in this part of the world a memory of an extremely smart and well-behaved unit, they have also left behind a very pleasing record of their stay which will apparently last almost indefinitely. The first autumn after the East Surrey's departure their deserted camp was picked out by neat circles and lines of the crimson parasol toadstool; this spring we had the same scheme in foxgloves, and, if by any chance these horticultural efforts are managed by the very Materialistic Records Department at the War Office, I hope that this autumn they will endeavour to have the blue print marked out in edible mushrooms.

# FARM COTTAGES: OFFICIAL AND SOME UNOFFICIAL VIEWS

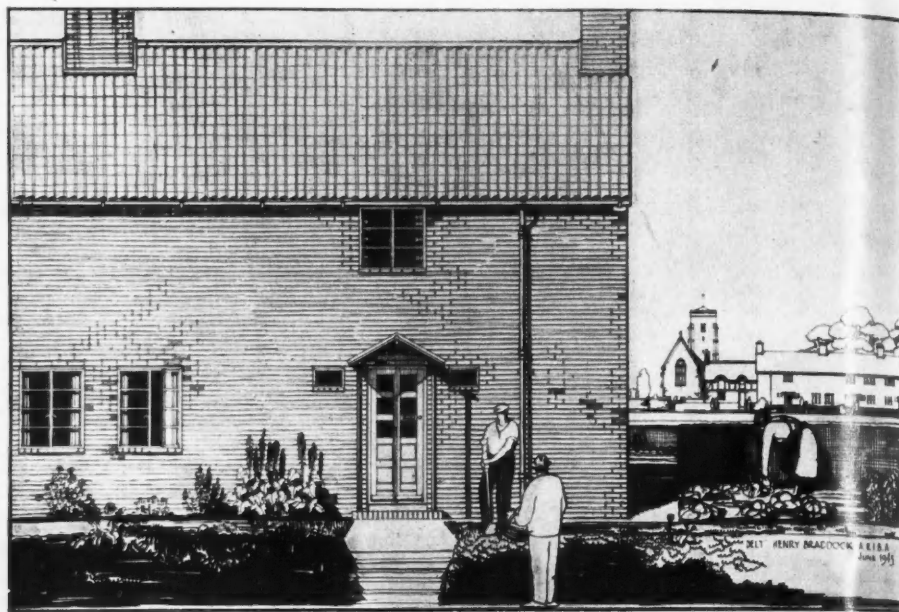
A SIMPLIFIED design for farm cottages has been prepared by the Ministry of Works for use where tenders for building the Ministry of Health's "Harvest" model have not been accepted by Local Authorities before July 8. This revised design, which may be called the "Ploughing" model, since Mr. Hugh Beaver expects that many will be erected in time for winter ploughing, is illustrated here. It will be put out to tender by Local Authorities as before, but if tenders are again unacceptable, the Ministry of Works has undertaken to produce contractors whose tenders will be satisfactory. The modified design, by Mr. Arthur Kenyon, is described as an "emergency" type, based on experience gained in housing for the Ministry of Supply and other urgent war-time requirements, under which category the housing of agricultural workers is thus brought. The design therefore, it is stated, is not to be taken as implying any judgment on post-war ideals in cottage design.

In the light of the views expressed below by two contributors, it may be felt that in some important respects these "Plough cottages" come nearer to practical possibilities, as visualised by actual farm-workers, than the high ideals alluded to in the "Harvest" type. The Plough cottages are to be of local brick with 11-in. cavity walls and will generally have pitched roofs of tile or slate, though asbestos tiles or nearly flat roofs may have to be allowed. Sufficient timber is being released to enable all floors to be of wood except kitchen and bathroom. To save timber, windows will be metal framed.

The plans (of which there are three variants, A, B, and C) afford a living-room, kitchen, ground-floor bathroom, w.c., larder, and three upstairs bedrooms. Their dimensions compare favourably with the non-parlour houses of the Harvest model, in which kitchen and living-room together averaged 240 sq. ft., while the same space in the new Plough design is 287 sq. ft., but the height of the ground-floor rooms is reduced from 8 ft. to 7½ ft. The three bedrooms total 328 sq. ft. in these against some 290 sq. ft. in the Harvest non-parlour type. All the new pattern have a bathroom, containing a copper, adjoining the kitchen on the ground floor, which makes for easy washing of clothes. This arrangement, which economises heat and plumbing by grouping services, also makes for simpler building. Type B provides for the back-to-back type of grate (range in kitchen, hearth in living-room) which greatly economises fuel and warmth and is popular in some districts but not in others. The kitchens are fitted with a sink with two draining-boards, a range, a linen cupboard and a dresser. Types A and B provide one built-in cupboard in one bedroom, type C a cupboard in two bedrooms. All types provide a separate fuel-shed and store in an outhouse at the back.

The cottages are designed to be built in groups of four. The drawing shows the northerly elevation of an end house in which some of the windows are round the corner. Both kitchen and living-room in each type are lit from both ends, the principal windows (of three lights) being towards the south. The small windows in the drawing light larder and w.c.; the others, one end of the living-room and of the principal bedroom, and the third bedroom.

For what they are, and in view of the building and cost situation, they are good cottages, capable, if well built, of looking agreeable. Their cost is bound to be considerable, but should be much less than some of the tenders (over £1,000) for the Harvest model. In this connection it should be borne in mind that a subsidy of £150 per cottage is to be paid to the Ministry of Works for their construction, in addition to the Ministry of Health subsidy, so that a rent of 8s. a week should be economic to the local authority—if not to the farm-worker. For comparison, a photograph is given of the



ELEVATION OF EMERGENCY WAR-TIME AGRICULTURAL COTTAGE  
Ministry of Works design. To be built in blocks of four, as indicated in the background

model of a Scottish farm-worker's cottage designed by Mr. Robert Hurd of Edinburgh according to specifications provided by the Scottish Women's Rural Institutes. Scottish tradition is satisfied with one storey and a kitchen-living-room, but desires a separate scullery, two double and one single bedrooms, besides a bathroom; also the harling and pan-tiles common to all Scotland simplify external treatment. Comparative examples are also given of typical cottages built since the last war by public and private enterprise when a wider range of materials and greater latitude were possible. As soon as possible after the war

it is desirable that the resources of local and traditional materials that satisfy modern standards should again be used. It is most undesirable that, in the great post-war building programme, a single standard cottage, however excellent, should be erected everywhere. The following articles, moreover, encourage the view that the farm-worker and his wife are generally satisfied by a simpler standard of accommodation than some quarters would have us believe. Indeed a large proportion of cottages are wanted where water supply is from a well and the provision of water-closets and running water is optimistic.

## WAGES ARE THE KEY PROBLEM

By Jorian Jenks

THE official programme of 3,000 new houses for agricultural workers is so insignificant by contrast with our needs (it works out at one house per 10,000 acres) that it can hardly be regarded as more than symbolic. Nevertheless, both it and the disappointment which has been occasioned by the delays in its execution do at least indicate a growing awareness of the rural housing problem.

That problem was serious enough even before the war, when it played no small part in reducing agricultural employment. Now it has been rendered acute by the many and heavy demands made by billeting authorities and by the urgent need for more labour on the land. One can only hope that large-scale evacuation from the cities will never again become necessary, for there would be the greatest difficulty in finding the required accommodation.

Nor is the existing congestion merely a transient situation which will disappear when the armistice signal is given. The dispersal of population and industry, begun as a war-time necessity, will doubtless be continued as a peace-time policy. So also will the need for a large volume of home-grown food, with its corresponding demand for a large volume of labour.

Thus a strain has been thrown on our rural areas which they were never intended to bear. Our villages, though built to serve purely local needs, have for some time past ceased to be exclusively agricultural in population. Indeed those within easy reach of large centres have acquired a frankly dormitory character, while

even in the remoter districts a considerable proportion of their inhabitants derive their livelihood from sources other than the land.

The Scott Committee estimated that in 1938 there were 6,000,000 people in England and Wales living outside the towns. Of these, rather fewer than a million were engaged in agriculture. So that even if we make a generous allowance for dependents, it is clear that substantially less than half our rural population lives directly by the land, though of course an additional number do so indirectly.

There are thus two problems. First, that of housing those who live, often by choice or by chance, in the country; and second, that of housing those who, because they live by the land, must also live on it. The first problem differs only in details from the urban or suburban housing problem. The second is greatly complicated by an economic factor, namely the relatively low wages paid in agriculture.

This is really the crux of the whole matter. For important as it is that people should be encouraged to live in the country rather than in the overcrowded cities, it is even more important that those who have, so to speak, stuck to the country through long years of depression, and on whose labours we depend for our daily bread, should not continue to labour under a serious disability. For it is unfortunately true that comparatively few of the new houses built in rural areas during the past 25 years, whether by public or by private enterprise, have been occupied by farm-workers.





BL CK OF THREE CONCRETE COTTAGES (1937)



PAIR OF COTTAGES (1925-26) AT FORTEVIOT, PERTHSHIRE

Single storey parlour houses of simple and pleasing design

The plain fact is that the type of farm-worker who, from a social point of view, is of greatest value to the community, namely the young to middle-aged married man with children, cannot afford to pay the full economic rent for a modern house, let alone the cost of those amenities, such as piped water and electric light, for which his wife has long sighed in vain. With a pre-war wage around 40s. a week (including overtime), it was impossible for him to pay more than 5s. rent. For country folk need plenty of good food, boots and clothing, and these are not appreciably cheaper in the village than they are in the town. Even at present rates of pay (£3 to £4 a week), there is still a gap between the rent which he can afford and the cost of inhabiting a comfortable, modernised dwelling.

The traditional expedient—it is hardly a solution—is that of the tied cottage, which is let, or sub-let, by an employer at an uneconomic rent (usually 3s. a week) to an employee. Generally speaking, these cottages form a part of the permanent farm or estate equipment; and they are included, along with the farmhouse and farm-buildings, in the rent which a tenant-farmer pays for his holding. But there have been cases in which farmers have bought up cottage-property in an adjoining village for the use of their men.

Naturally, a worker's occupation of one of these cottages is conditional upon his continuing in the same employment.

His tenancy begins and ends with his job. It has often been contended that this gives the farmer an unfair hold over his men, and that it is morally unjust that a man's home should

be at the mercy of his employer. Certainly there is an element of hardship in it, especially for a worker with young children, though it is seldom that the bare week's notice is strictly enforced and in any case a good man usually has another job to go to.

But critics of the system are apt to ignore the conditions which have made its perpetuation necessary. These are, first the dearth of "free" cottages, which renders it a positive advantage to the worker to obtain housing along with the job; second, the necessity for stockmen to live near their beasts; and third, the fact that the uneconomic rent is unmistakably a subsidy on wages. It is futile to talk of abolishing the tied cottage unless these conditions are first taken into full consideration.

At the same time, there is no escaping the conclusion that the system is becoming increasingly anomalous and must sooner or later be amended. Like all forms of subsidy, it tends to be inequitable in its application; for now that farm wages have been standardised those workers who have to pay full rent for "free" accommodation receive in effect less than those who obtain tied cottages.

Moreover, since no one likes paying a subsidy, expenditure on tied housing has been cut to an absolute minimum.

Very few new cottages have been built in the last 25 years, and many of the older ones are not only obsolete by modern standards but

are visibly decaying. On some estates, the position is still quite satisfactory; on others, the inadequacy or poor quality of the accommodation repels both good farmers and good workmen, and the land suffers in consequence. Before the war there were any number of potentially productive farms reduced to semi-dereliction for this reason alone; and there are thousands of farm-workers living under conditions which would not be tolerated for a day if alternative accommodation existed.

This situation cannot fairly be attributed to any of the parties concerned. It is directly due to the long-continued impoverishment of agriculture, and can be removed only by permanently raising the status of agriculture. There is no real solution of the housing problem other than the raising of farm wages to a point at which a fair economic rent can be paid, which in turn means an adjustment in the price-level of farm products. Subsidies and restrictions may bridge the gap for the time being; but sooner or later the building, reconstruction and maintenance of cottages must be put on a sound economic basis.

This solution will probably be unpalatable in many quarters, but it is the only one which will enable agriculture to attract and retain the young workers who are so vital to its welfare. For nothing does more to turn the young countryman away from the land which is his natural occupation than the obstacles which he sees ahead of him when the time comes for him to marry.

Either he must wait his turn for a tied cottage which may be so isolated, cramped and comfortless that most modern girls will refuse to face it, or he must join in the scramble for a "free" house at a rent higher than he can afford to pay.

Even when this basic obstacle has been overcome, there still remains the vexed question of siting new cottages. For obvious reasons, farmers prefer to have their employees living on the farm; and most of the men themselves like to live close to their work. But their women folk are apt to think otherwise; they tend to feel isolation more keenly than do men, and have a natural desire to live in the village, not only for the sake of the shops and society, but in order to save the children a long tramp to and from school.

With regard to the design of the cottages themselves, there is less divergence of view, and it is sincerely to be hoped that more consideration will be paid to the countryman's needs and desires than has generally been the case hitherto.

In the first place, he values snugness and warmth much more highly than airiness or sunlight. He gets his fill of fresh air during the day and doesn't want it in his home. Shelter



MODEL OF A SCOTTISH FARM-WORKER'S COTTAGE  
Based on requirements specified by The Scottish Women's Rural Institutes

from prevailing winds, and avoidance of draughts, are therefore prime considerations. In the second place, he objects strongly to concrete floors, knowing by experience that no living creature thrives on their hard, cold, impervious surface.

In the third place, he appreciates, and is entitled to, a bath, but has no particular need for a water-closet, being perfectly capable of managing an earth-closet in a hygienic manner and having a use for its products in his garden. Nor is there any need whatever for this convenience to be sited at the further end of a long path. In the fourth place, he has less need of a parlour than of a "back-place." This should be, not just an outsized porch, but a roomy, weather-proof apartment in which he can do odd jobs, deposit boots and garments which his wife will not permit in the house, and store his wood, coal, potatoes, cycle, tools, wheelbarrow, rabbit-traps and a host of other treasures inseparable from his way of life.

Some day, let us hope, we shall be able to house the farm-worker as he deserves to be housed; if we do not, we shall assuredly lose him. Meantime, it is not unprofitable to study the peculiarities of his problems and his requirements.



A NEW COTTAGE OF COB AND THATCH  
Local materials used on a private estate

## THE FARM-WORKER'S OWN VIEW

By Wallace Arter

THOSE of us who have lived in or among country cottages all our lives are somewhat bewildered by the spate of schemes, plans, proposals and suggestions which has followed the announcement that a few cottages are to be built for farm-workers. The schemes appear to us to tackle the problem from two extremes, with very little regard for what is needed and what is possible. On the one hand we have the plan to build cottages which will be, at the best, temporary dwellings which no building authority would sanction in normal times, erected at a cost which will mean rents far above those the average farm-worker can pay. At the other extreme we have promises that the village homes of the future will be fitted with "every modern convenience." One writer even forecast refrigerators and electric labour-saving devices in every home.

Refrigerators for women who have longed for a decent, cool and roomy larder all their lives. Electric sweepers for housewives who have fought a life-long battle against mud and damp.

We are told that countrywomen have been consulted before these plans and schemes were announced. It would be interesting to hear how many occupiers of cottages were questioned. With all respect for the hard-working ladies who "run" the villages, they do not always manage to get into the minds of the working women; nor do they often know much about cottage life.

The ordinary villager is singularly unimpressed by talk of modern conveniences. It is not much good promising a copy of Virgil in the original to a man who can scarcely speak his own language, and it is equally useless to promise 20th-century devices to housewives who have almost given up hope of getting those elementary conveniences they should have had for generations.

What are the requirements of the farm-worker? First of all must come weather-proofing. It has been said that "water" is the enemy of the village housewife. She is either breaking her back pumping or drawing water for household use, or is slaving to keep water

(as damp, rain or mud) out! There is much truth in that statement. Let the planners do away with leaky roofs, damp walls, muddy paths just outside the door; give a good, handy water-supply; and make provision for the storage of wet and dirty clothes, tools, washing and vegetables out of the cottage but within easy reach—and the village housewife will bless the planners.

Most village women are beginning to look upon electric light as a remote possibility, but they are by no means unanimous in their desire for it. Electricity will come to the villages in due time and will, no doubt, be appreciated when it does come, but for the time being the average cottager is willing to use paraffin for lighting.

Gas light appeals to few, but a gas-ring is the dream of most women who work on the land. They will willingly cook over coal or wood fires, but a ring on which they could boil the kettle quickly would be a boon above all things.

A sound path round the cottage, a copper in an outhouse easily reached without going into "the weather," and a bath-tub for the children stand high in the list of essentials. Most cottagers have little desire for a bathroom. They have enough sense to realise that these things cost money and mean higher rents, and they have little faith in any promises that wages will remain at their present level after the war. They would, for the greater part, be satisfied with a bath-tub sunk in the floor before the kitchen fire. (This is already seen in some workers' dwellings in industrial districts.) Given a good boiler in the range so that the sloppy business of carrying hot water can be avoided, such a bath would be more appreciated than a special bathroom.

Cottagers are all too accustomed to bad sanitation. It is still common to find cottages without a sink or without a drain to carry water from the sink. Deep sinks with a good flow-away are essential. A draining-board and other accessories should be provided.

Opinions about indoor sanitation vary. Most women would prefer flush lavatories but, in the absence of sewerage, these are not always possible. Chemical closets are very good but are too often turned into earth pails because of the expense or difficulty of buying the necessary chemicals. The chemical closet, in or near the cottage, which has been so converted is worse than the old type of earth closet at the end of the garden. This particular problem is one for the local authority to decide.

Built-in cupboards and shelves, windows which open and have fairly large panes, and doors which fit their frames may seem to be trivial items. They are, nevertheless, most important to the hard-working cottager.

There are many things which the farm-worker cannot reasonably expect in his new home, but there are also many long-awaited amenities which he, and she, can have.



PRIVATE ESTATE COTTAGE AT CHANTMARLE, DORSET  
Showing the picturesque possibilities of local materials



# CANINE CONCLUSIONS

By HULDINE V. BEAMISH

**I**N the past I kept, bred, and trained dogs for more years than I care to remember and, after a good deal of experience in one breed and another for various purposes, eventually selected what I considered the two most practical all-round breeds procurable, both as workers and companions. To those breeds I remained faithful for quite a few years before the war, and concentrated on building up a strain of each that fully suited my purpose.

These breeds belonged to the sheep-dog tribe, but the work I gave them was not confined to their original work. My three generations of Alsatis were trained as retrievers to a standard not far short of field-trial requirements, as well as being useful in countless smaller ways. The Pembroke corgis acted as retrieving spaniels, in addition to working on sheep and driving cattle when necessary. I had come to a conclusion inevitable to those whose primary object is training, *i.e.* that the sheep-dog or herding breed is outstanding in quickness, mental alertness, the desire to serve and co-operate, and trainability. I do not think anyone would deny this—indeed they could not, if they remember that the general term of "herding breed" comprises every sheep-dog from an Alsatian to a corgi, not to mention the little-known foreign breeds from various parts of Europe, such as the white sheep-dog of Pomerania and the kuvasz of Hungary. The golden retriever is also descended from a European herding strain.

But, as far as I am concerned, the time to pick and choose is over; my own dogs are dispersed, probably for ever, and for my sins (or Hitler's) I must now train dogs to other purposes than the peaceful one of strolling through a covert in search of game. The dogs to whom I now give preliminary training are destined for war-work of one sort or another, and (unfortunately) there is little choice as to age, breed, or sex. I have to take what I am given.

These dogs fall into five principal categories: Alsatis, bull terriers, Airedales, sheep-dogs, and cross-breeds. The last may be roughly divided into Alsatian, gun-dog, and sheep-dog crosses. One cannot train various breeds of dogs continually without forming a few general conclusions about the breeds and their characteristics. For there is no doubt at all that certain characteristics do belong to a breed generally, even though the individuals may differ in the smaller details. It seems to me that this is a tribute (or otherwise) to the consistency of breeding to type, not only physically, but—to a remarkable degree—mentally as well. Although one has always heard general statements about the breeds—"Collies are treacherous," "Bull terriers are fighters," and so on—I had never before realised to what extent certain characteristics belonged almost inevitably to particular breeds.

## THE ALSATIAN

Of Alsatis I shall not say much. I consider them—as I have always considered them—the cream of the whole working section of the canine race, whether their purpose is herding sheep, working with the gun, hunting men, or looking for a lost handkerchief. Dogs of widely varying ages come for training, but whatever the age of an Alsatian he will learn more quickly than any other breed. Conversely, he has a long memory; his heart is more easily broken; he may pine for his home and owner so that, although he performs to perfection, his eyes and thoughts are often somewhere far away, as though he is seeking for something he has lost. Alsatis too, are more easily dealt with by people who are strangers to them but who understand the breed.

Among the newly-arrived Alsatis, there are generally three types—the friendly, the nervous, and the savage. The latter are extremely rare; among them are the silent, dangerous dogs who attack noiselessly and without warning. The nervous ones usually calm down after a few days, even though they may try to bite at first through sheer nervousness. The experienced trainer can generally tell at a glance to which type the dog belongs.

I never had much to do with bull terriers until I started this general training, and had always regarded the show bull terrier as an ugly, useless animal, bred to his fantastic appearance through the exaggerated requirements of the show-ring, and thereby losing the only purpose for which he was originally intended, *i.e.* fighting, as well as any intelligence he may have possessed. But the bull terrier is far from useless, though one could hardly call him hugely intelligent. First of all, I was amazed to find that, despite his peculiar appearance, he has lost nothing of his fighting quality, a quality which may now be adapted to more useful work. It might be an over-statement to say that this is all he possesses, but certainly it fills much of the small space devoted to housing his brain. The bull terrier, show specimen or otherwise, is still very much a fighting machine, and once he has opened his eager jaws and closed them on the flesh or skin of any living thing, it would take a crowbar to open them!

## THE BULL TERRIER'S BITE

The bull terrier appears to have no reaction to physical pain, and I doubt if he ever does feel pain once his amazing emotions are really roused. Intensive training, when he has to learn to work peacefully with other dogs, does put some self-control into him, but if, or when, he imagines some other dog has made a rude face at him, he fixes his little pig-like eyes on the originator of the insult, and often his teeth chatter with the anticipation of revenge. All the same, I have seen seven or eight of these queer animals lying in a field no more than two or three yards from one another, with their respective handlers some distance away, and managing, with admirable self-control, to stay where they are without moving for a quarter of an hour or so. This is the result of training, and a very necessary one with bull terriers. Another point about them is that one never quite knows where one stands, for the bull terrier has a habit of wagging his tail and smiling the moment before he bites.

The bull terrier is extremely obstinate and stubborn. He may be persuaded (which is doubtful) into obedience, he may be slapped sharply into lying down, but he completely refuses to be manually forced, by which I mean that the more he is pushed, the more he delights in resisting with his taut, braced muscles. To me, the bull terrier, though undoubtedly he has his uses, is not like a dog at all, but this blind fighting spirit, when roused, shows that all the soft living or show and kennel life in the world will never take away a quality that was inherently fixed in the beginning, when his ancestors were put into the pit to tear or be torn to pieces.

## "WOODEN"

If the bull terrier is obstinate, the Airedale is "wooden." On the whole, the trainers do not like Airedales. They are slow to learn, seldom eager to work, and somewhat undisciplined in mentality, which means that they do not take kindly to law and order but prefer to career gaily over the fields in joyous abandon. These qualities are perhaps natural in a terrier breed, and it is doubtful if they can ever be really eliminated. Many years ago I gave up breeding terriers because of this very characteristic of independence, which is, of course, liked by many dog-owners. The terrier has more in common with the feline tribe—he likes to be his own master, and can never for the life of him see why he should co-operate to the point of being



consistently useful to his owner; this is in contrast to the herding or gun-dog breeds, which delight in pleasant co-operation. Maybe the terrier, and especially the show terrier in this country, has been on the unemployment list for so long that his capacity for co-operative work has become slightly rusty. Nevertheless this is no condemnation of the Airedale, who can be, and very often is, an excellent dog for many purposes when trained.

All sheep-dogs and collies are easily trained, but some of the collies possess those very traits in which I used to disbelieve at one time, when I heard people say that they were "treacherous." I do not think a sheep-dog ever likes the collar and lead. Probably this comes from a very ancient instinct from olden days, for sheep-dogs have nearly always shadowed their owners free and unfettered. This dislike of a collar and lead is most marked in the corgi, one of the latest of the herding breeds to join the professional ranks. Collies may snap, generally silently, and often when the collar is being put on or taken off. On the whole, sheep-dogs are inclined to be more nervous than savage.

The gun-dog breeds are sometimes represented by Labradors and retriever crosses of various descriptions. Retrievers are, on the whole, good dogs for the purposes for which they are eventually destined in this training, provided their hearts and minds are not too much occupied by a desire to hunt game and rabbits when engaged on more important business. In fact, no dog who is either gun-shy or an inveterate hunter can be accepted at all, for obvious reasons. The Labrador can be a very tough customer, and sometimes an uncertain one to train and handle. But a well-trained gun-dog of this sort is very useful, and his nose is a great asset.

## THE CROSS-BREDS

Cross-breeds generally are easily trained and very suitable, provided that their size comes up to the required standard. In many ways it is interesting to look after and train different breeds of dogs from unknown homes, whose ages may range from seven months to eight or nine years, and whose past history is nearly always a closed book.

Not long ago I was told an interesting anecdote about the work of a trained dog. A demonstration was being staged for a certain section of the Government Department that runs this particular canine branch. One of the items provided took place in a car-park of about 200 cars in a large field. In one of the lorries a man was previously hidden under a heavy tarpaulin sheet. The handler and his dog then came into the field, and the dog was sent loose to hunt for the trespasser, neither handler nor dog knowing where he would be found. In a few moments, among all those 200 cars, the dog was scratching madly at the tarpaulin to find his man. To me, the chief interest lay in the fact that this very efficient dog was a smallish, rather insignificant-looking sheep-dog of the collie variety!



# WONDERFUL NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY

A new series of pictures from America  
described by

FRANK W. LANE



## BROWN PELICAN

The huge beak and pouch are used for catching and storing fish. Often after a catch a pelican is surrounded by a horde of screaming gulls intent on robbing it of its prey

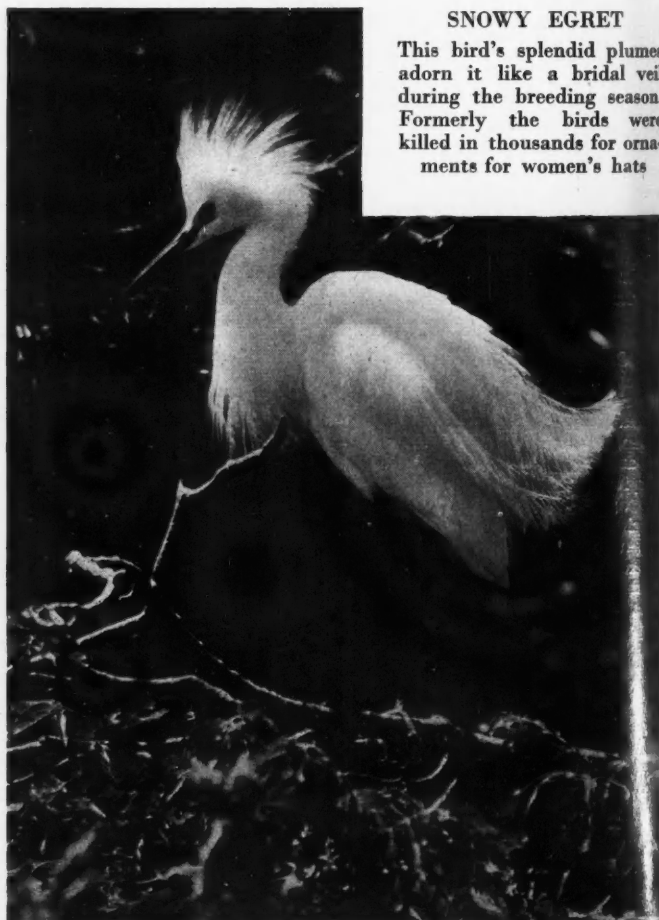
*Allan D. Cruickshank*



## NEBULOUS TOAD AND ITS REFLECTION

Aided by its inflated vocal sac, a toad can throw its voice for great distances. The shrill notes of one toad have been heard over a distance of a quarter of a mile

*Karl H. Maslowski*



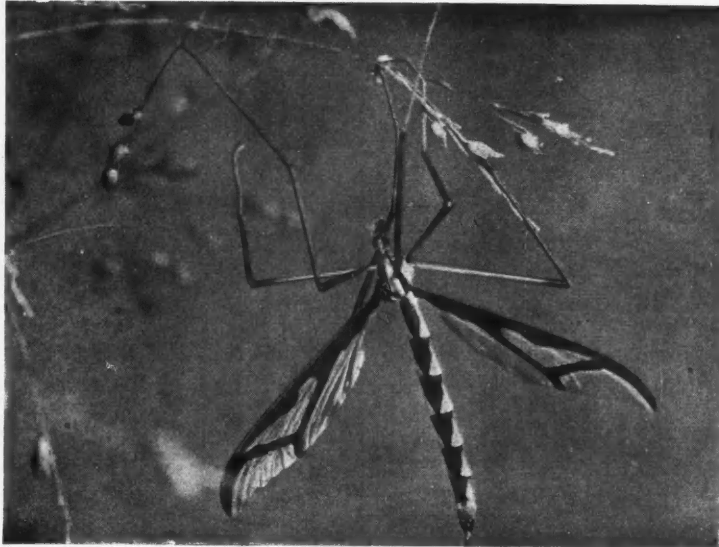
## SNOWY EGRET

This bird's splendid plumes adorn it like a bridal veil during the breeding season. Formerly the birds were killed in thousands for ornaments for women's hats

*Allan D. Cruickshank*

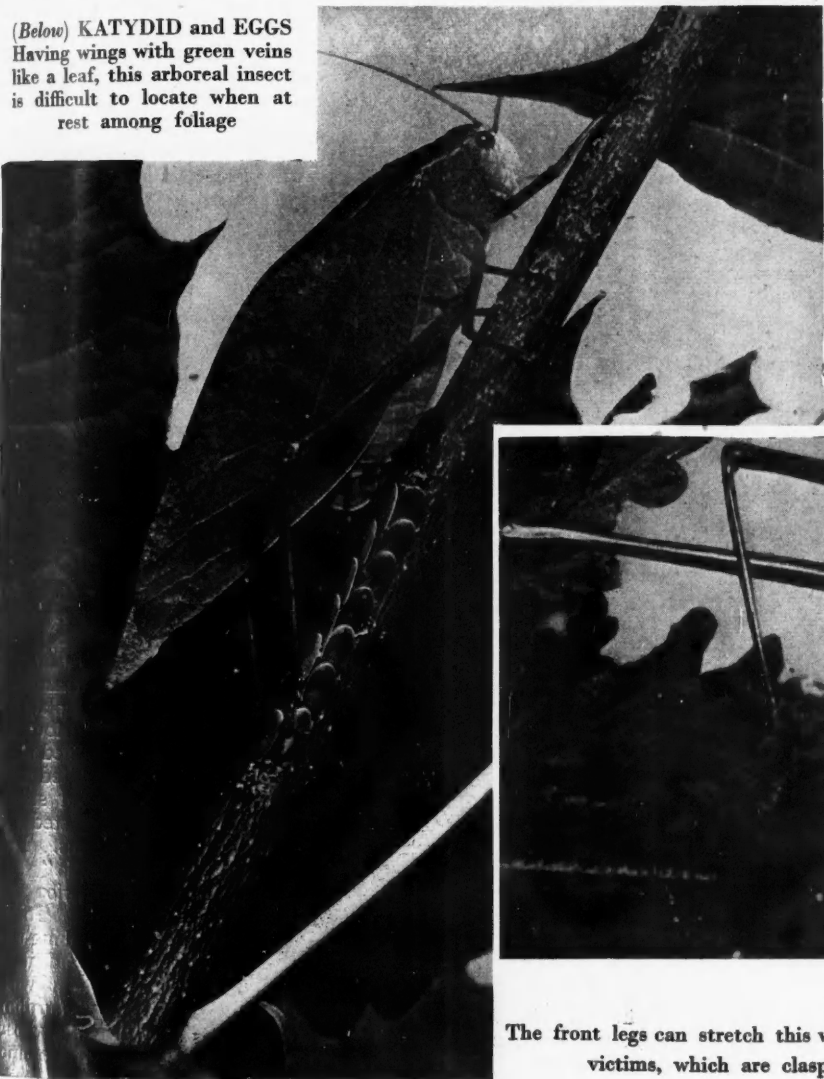
**POLYPHEMUS MOTH.**

This is a large American silkworm moth. The eye-like spots in the hind wing probably act as defensive ornaments



**CRANEFLY.** This fly is sometimes called the Jersey mosquito, although it does not bite. Crane flies are so delicate that even slight handling may break a leg off

(Below) **KATYDID and EGGS**  
Having wings with green veins like a leaf, this arboreal insect is difficult to locate when at rest among foliage



*Edwin Way Teale*

**PRAYING MANTIS**

The front legs can stretch this way and that in a remarkable fashion. They catch its victims, which are clasped between the toothed segments of the legs



# HAMPSTEAD VILLAGE—I

By MURIEL BARRON

*Climbing the steep quiet streets, it is entertaining to re-people them with the figures of long-past Hampstead society, a large proportion of them men and women celebrated in the arts*

**I**N some districts in the vast welter of building called "Greater London" can be traced more plainly than in others the successive waves of building which have transformed former villages, such as Islington or Chiswick, into indistinguishable parts of the metropolitan area.

In Hampstead, less than a century ago an isolated village on the edge of its "bleak and swarthy moor," the sequence of building periods responsible for swallowing the surrounding farms and market gardens can be plainly distinguished. The builders were only just prevented from engulfing even larger areas, filched from the common lands of the Heath itself.

In the first decade of the eighteenth century an urgent demand for more than local needs of housing arose as a result of the rise to favour of the waters of Hampstead's chalybeate spring. The old village speedily became a fashionable "spa." So highly approved were the medicinal qualities of its waters that, in addition to attracting throngs of visitors, the water itself was "bottled up in flasks and sent to Mr. Phelps Apothecary at the Eagle and Child in Fleet Street every morning at the rate of 3d. per flask," for the benefit of dwellers in London itself. This practice saw the origin of the names of the two inns the "Upper" and "Lower Flask" which play so great a part in the histories of



1.—HAMPSTEAD SQUARE WITH VINE HOUSE IN THE DISTANCE



Georgian Hampstead. There must have been a wide choice, and thriving trade, in bottled waters, as even the obscure "well" at Holt, near Trowbridge, sent its variant of the Bath waters to London in bottles, for some years at this period, and no doubt other spas did the same.

The need to accommodate the many visitors coming for health, or more often for pleasure, had resulted in the building of many of those pleasant red-brick houses of early 18th-century style which still give distinction to the tree-shaded streets of the borough. Not only those family houses, standing in their own grounds, behind brick walls, or heavy iron railings, such as Cannon Hall (Fig. 2), with its views over six counties and long the home of Sir Gerald du Maurier; or Heath Lodge (Fig. 10), associated with the Quaker worthies entertained there by the banker Samuel Hoare, who erected at his own expense the "Lancastrian School" for 150 children. The Hoare family long occupied this house, on the very summit of the Heath facing Jack Straw's Castle, of Dickensian memories.

Whole streets of early Georgian houses have more rarely survived than family mansions, where only one person at a time is liable to the itch to alter instead of a dozen or score. All the more remarkable, therefore, that Church Row (Fig. 3) is still a homogeneous Georgian composition with the church at its further end. With its area steps

and canopied doorways, the Queen Anne's Gate of North-west London is virtually unchanged (save for an unfortunate block of flats) since the days when Mrs. Barbauld lived at No. 8, and Park, the historian of Hampstead, occupied one of the smaller houses now marked by the blue plaque of the London County Council. Next door, nearer the church, is the former home of a better-known writer and historian: H. G. Wells. His occupation awaits a similar commemoration, but the description of the pear tree in blossom which he gives in an early novel must surely have been prompted by the sight of the tall tree whose white flower-hung branches reach almost to the bow-window of his second-floor study, with its magnificent views across London to the distant North Downs.

Robert Louis Stevenson's short stay as the guest of Sidney Colvin at Abernethy House, on Mount Vernon and within sight of Church Row, also waits for recognition; but perhaps in this favourite suburb, the haunt of writers and artists for more than two centuries, blue and brown plaques would be too many. If attribution were made to all the distinguished men and women who have inhabited the parish, the houses that would stand out would be those that boasted no acquaintance with the famous. For the "Hampstead Intelligentsia" existed long before this expression for literary *coterie*s came into use. Going about the quiet streets and climbing the innumerable hills of Hampstead it is entertaining to re-people them with figures of long-past societies, as familiar from their records and letters as those whom we may meet to-day. Joanna

## 2.—CANNON HALL

The home of the late Sir Gerald du Maurier is seen through the iron entrance gate



(Right) 3. — CHURCH ROW, LOOKING WEST TOWARDS THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JOHN



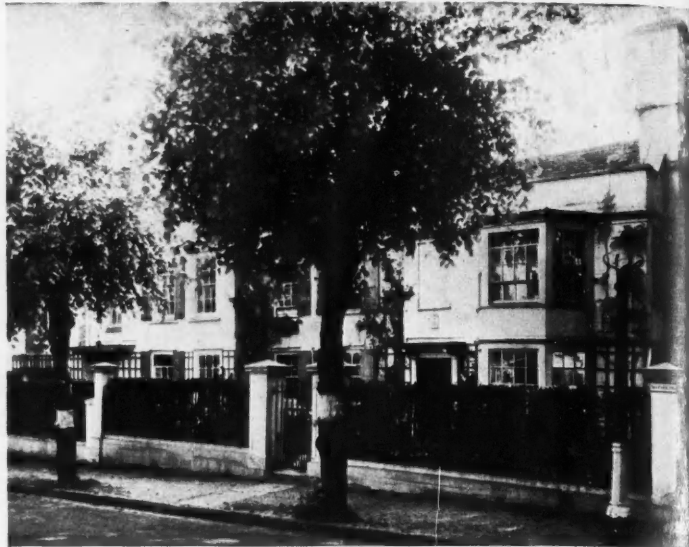
(Below) 4. — AT THE WEST END OF CHURCH ROW, NORTH SIDE

Church Row originally comprised only this north side (also seen on the right of Fig. 3). The houses on the south side, though typically "Queen Anne" were built after 1745





5.—MOUNT VERNON. Robert Louis Stevenson shared a house here—Abernethy House—with Sidney Colvin



6.—CAPO DI MONTE COTTAGE, JUDGES WALK  
The home of Mrs. Siddons

Baillie at Bolton House, Mrs. Barbauld in Church Row were not wanting in distinguished neighbours, painters—notably Constable, who occupied half a dozen different houses at various times, Clarkson Stanfield (his name still perpetuated in Stanfield House), John Danby, J. Leslie and George Romney, a stone's throw from Joanna Baillie on Windmill Hill, are the most eminent of these. But from its first popularity as a spa, when Dr. Johnson wrote the opening 70 lines of the *Vanity of Human Wishes* in "that small house beyond the church," poets and writers abound in its annals. Everyone came to the Wells, bad roads, highwaymen and footpads—distance

itself, notwithstanding. Whenever he came south Sir Walter Scott visited Joanna Baillie on Windmill Hill. Writing to her in prophetic vein he says: "The increasing powers of steam will I think waft friends in the course of a few hours, and, for aught we may be able to tell, bring Hampstead and Abbotsford within the distance of—'Will you dine with me quietly to-morrow?'"

The hospitable walls of Bolton House welcomed Sir Walter's daughter for a long visit. A couple of doors away may be seen a much more architecturally-distinguished example of early Georgian domestic building: Fenton House. Its red brick exterior with

white sashes, painted cornice and pediment, and stone dressings make a delightful picture seen through a pair of admirable wrought-iron gates. It takes its name from a Riga merchant, one Philip Robertson Fenton, who lived here at the end of the eighteenth century. We read that a member of the same family was president at a meeting held in 1829, at the Holly Bush Tavern, at which the copyholders of the manor discussed the measures to be taken to preserve the Heath from further encroachments. Neither the efforts of the copyholders nor those of the lord of the manor had prevented the building of more than one house, with its garden and



7.—COTTAGE GARDENS IN BENHAM PLACE  
A Row leading out of Holly Hill



8.—FOLEY HOUSE. The earliest building on the "Wells Charity" estate, built by John Driffield





9.—OLD GROVE HOUSE  
For thirty years the home of George du Maurier



10.—HEATH LODGE. From its French windows there is a panoramic view of London with St. Paul's in the centre

stables, on the common land of the Heath, during the preceding century. The Pryors, its site now occupied by a large block of flats, is an obvious example. It is possible that the houses now making a continuous line up the steep ascent of East Heath Road were similar encroachments. One of the earliest of these, Foley House (Fig. 8), the earliest building on the Wells Estate, was put up by John Driffield, one of the original speculators in the curative properties of the "medicinal spring," on part of "the six acres of heathland lying about and encompassing it," which were bequeathed for "the sole use and benefit of the poor of Hampstead" by the Hon. Susannah Noel. The indenture by which this gift is made on her own part and on that of her infant son, Baptist, Earl of Gainsborough, is dated December 1698, and is the foundation of what is now known as the "Wells Charity."

The exploitation of the mineral waters was a very profitable thing to the keepers of tea and coffee rooms, taverns and bowling greens, assembly and gaming rooms which did excellent business from May till October.

In the Vale of Health a cluster of cottages on the margin of the pond had been customarily occupied since Tudor times by the laundresses who washed the linen of the Court and great city merchants. These folk began to serve the visitors with outdoor refreshments, or give them lodgings. With this increasing demand more houses arose on the spot, though of an unsophisticated kind. Leigh Hunt longed for his "Hampstead retreat out of the smoke and stir of London," and in the Vale of Health he took up his abode in 1815 in "our little packing case, dignified with the name of house." In later years he wrote to a friend: "I defy you to have lived in a smaller cottage than I have

done, yet it had held Shelley and Keats . . . they have made worlds of their own within these rooms!"

By the nineteenth century the red brick houses in Georgian style which had formed a quite considerable village on the Hampstead slopes and small hills, began to give place to a new fashion in building. New roads and building estates were projected over fields and market gardens. On the edge of the East Heath Downshire Hill and John Street (the present Keats Grove) began to arise on the site of worked-out brickfields. Among the builders of neat semi-detached villas was Charles Wentworth Dilke. He called his pair of villas Wentworth Place, and it was in one of these houses that the last years of Keats's short life were spent, a name ever to be associated with Hampstead.

(To be concluded.)

## COLLECTORS' QUESTIONS

### A New "Country Life" Feature

**EVERY** year readers of "Country Life" send us many questions on matters that specially concern the connoisseur and the collector—in particular on old silver, furniture, clocks and pictures.

It is clear from our correspondence that the war, far from suppressing interest in such things, has actually increased it, and we have therefore made special arrangements to meet it. Our panel of experts has been increased, and now embraces, we believe, the widest knowledge and experience available. We invite readers to submit their problems to its judgment, and we propose to publish a selection of the most interesting questions and answers at short intervals.

It must be emphasised that we cannot undertake valuations of any kind, and we specially ask readers not to send us their possessions: photographs, rubbings and full descriptions must suffice.

Questions should be addressed to the Editor, "Country Life," 2-10, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2. A stamped addressed envelope should be enclosed if a reply by post is expected.

## GARDENS OF THE HIGHWAY

By MARION HENDERSON

**I**N these days of restricted journeys there is some substitute in travelling the roads of recollection, which are boundless and free. My fancy often takes me along three outstanding Scottish highways, parts of them as remarkable for their natural gardens as for their wonderful scenery.

There is the coast road from Tarbert on Loch Fyne to Campbeltown in Kintyre, with its ever-changing seascapes and its miles of rhododendrons and sea pinks. The garden of flowering shrubs begins at West Loch Tarbert, where the swans sail serenely inshore and the road twists and bends, losing itself among the stretches of purple and green that form a lattice between it and the sea. Midway between Tarbert and Campbeltown there are the loveliest natural rock gardens in the world, cliff-sides and rocks massed in sea pinks throughout the summer. These rockeries lie open to the western ocean, looking across to Islay and Jura rising blue out of the sea and to the little island of Gigha green to the water's edge. From a distance the highest rocks resemble hanging gardens glowing in pink.

The road from Garve in Ross-shire to Ullapool leads through a great garden of silver birches and purple, white and red rhododendrons. The flowers have escaped from mansion gardens hidden among the hills, and when their bloom is over they carpet the road for miles with their fallen petals. Silver birches glimmer against the dark firs growing on the hillside,

the satiny sheen of their bark setting off the lovely green "lace" of the branches, and where the road comes paralleled to Loch Broom the birches form almost a continuous avenue.

Loch Broom itself has islands of blossom, as numerous and fantastic as the pieces of a jig-saw puzzle. The ebb and flow of the tide has cut narrow channels into the peaty soil, the pieces of the carving entirely covered over with sea pinks, and forming beautiful elfin islands resembling maps of different parts of the world. I have forded them bare-footed, jumping off "England" on to "America," landing on an imaginary Australia that was like a green and pink cushion to the tread.

Midway between Dumfries and Annan, on the main road to the south, there is a hedge of vivid yellow gorse that must have warmed the hearts of countless travellers. You come on it suddenly, at a turn in the road. The gorse has formed itself into a solid, formidable boundary; it is the work of years, and the mantle of bloom flung over the stone wall covers at one point every trace of the milestone. Those travellers who have been lured by the rich glow of colour to halt by the wild garden must always remember the air heavy and warm with the honey-scent of the gorse in summer; perhaps like Linnæus the sight of myriads of small butterfly flowers burning with the intensity of light moved them to adoration and made them forget the miles of bare road that stretched north and south of this garden of the highway.



# THE RAGGLE-TAGGLE GYPSIES

By RICHARD CHURCH

LIFE has its disciplines surely enough, especially to-day when every one of us is working for 25 hours a day, earning a penny for bread and butter and the children's education, and another penny to keep the war-machine lubricated; and in addition putting in a bit of time at Home Guard, fire service, or some other communal work that demands a sacrifice of leisure and precious privacy. We don't grumble about it, or not very much; we are even willing, eager, to put ourselves to this task of salvaging the rights of individual man. I find myself less and less often rebelling against the daily attendance, the roll-call, the filling in of forms.

But even so, there are moments. I have just been through one of them, when a great surge of criticism lifted me off the firm ground of duty. "Why?" I asked myself, "What, and Who?" And of course at that dangerous moment there was no answer from a better and more loyal self.

The reason for this indulgence is that the gypsies have come to Kent. The gypsies, the cherry-pickers, with their caravans, their slum-bred babies, their mangy horses, their raucous voices, their cadging habits. And here in a flash I find myself like that desperate hero in Tolstoy's story, that elderly, respectable family man who suddenly disappeared and was found a long time after in a gypsies' tent, lying dishevelled and disgraceful, listening to the drugging enchantment of their music, the dubious music that is always a fraction of a tone underpitch. A cheat; the whole thing a cheat, a trick of a sun-burnt, dirty hand; an appeal that goes behind the back of reason and good sense.

But such cheats come to all of us, and we never know when to expect them, so that we can be ready to resist. It may be a sprig of honeysuckle in a pot that some unaware typist has brought to the office with her spam sandwiches. It may be a gleam of sunshine on a red blouse, or on a plane-tree bough in a city square. It may be a street musician pounding out *The Blue Danube* on a slack-stringed piano during lunch-hour. Small incidents like these are enough to set that little nerve of temptation throbbing.

And now it is the gypsies, and Cherry-ripe. With what overwhelming effects the annual coincidence has come round this year! The whole of Kent, by a trick of weather, has a certain *abandon*, a wantonness of beauty. The gardens, the hedgerows, the copses, the pondsides, all are themselves and something more. It is as though our whole English character has gone south. I should not be surprised—this summer—to see my cottage neighbour and his wife sitting outside their front door one evening drinking red wine from a carafe, and eating a *Pan Bagnat* spread with garlic. I look down the slope of my garden and see cardoons six feet high with the lovely Dionysiac cones already formed. Mignonette has flowered in April, and strawberries have ripened in May. And in June we have raised early potatoes, those waxy Yellow Eigenheimers that taste of the Mediterranean and almost make up for our war-time lack of olive oil.

In these outrageous conditions, with a wild emphasis on springtime's wantonings, the cherry-pickers have come in their thousands. I have no idea why there are so many of them this year. Perhaps they smell, through their Egyptian sixth sense, the plenty of the season, the fat profits, the bumper crops. And they seem to be untouched by the troubles of our times. History and the tragedies of history pass them by.

Late last night I heard a party stop with a clatter of hoofs. Then two of the men walked down the lane together. They were arguing; and their argument brought them for a few moments to a standstill outside the house. The bats skated adroitly round them, and a military-minded late thrush shouted reprovingly at them, "Brigadier! Brigadier! Brigadier!"

But they paid no heed. Their own voices were husky, slurred, dishonest. They called each other "Brother, brother," too often, in the Roman way. They were quarrelling about a horse; whether or not to buy it; whether the harness was worth having. The violence of their conversation suggested that all this was only a symbolism for something deeper, a blood-feud, a hatred centuries old. They went down the hill and up again; and when they returned they were still "brother, brothering," with an anger and savagery in their velvety-ruffled words.

Meanwhile the rest of the party had driven into the great cherry orchard behind the house and were setting about by dusk-light to prepare their camp. I stood at an upstairs window listening. I could see little, for the orchard was almost dark, except for sprays of foliage here and there protruding into the last western light, revealing sculptured leaves and a few marbled fruits, cold, unreal, legendary. I heard more husky voices, and bickering and the stamping of hoofs. Then footsteps slouching through the orchard grass, and sheep moving aside like white ships crowded in a harbour and making way for something to pass.

The something coming through the orchard was a woman. At first she was only a shape in the shadows, then a bundle of untidy clothes. She climbed the stile into our smaller orchard, waded across that and fumbled at the garden gate. She came through and then saw me at the window. She stopped and looked up at me.

I saw a large, sullen face, with low forehead and bloodshot eyes. The last western light fell on her, draping about her heavy figure. Between skirt and jersey a patch of pink corset shone like flesh. She was a youngish woman, and she was in trouble. She asked me if I would be a kind gentleman—the prescribed opening. Her voice was so rough, and her consonants so elided, that I had to ask her to repeat her words. This made her suspicious, and she spoke more sharply, and the "wild things" of which Ralph Hodgson speaks in his poem about the gypsy girl showed in those heavy eyes.

Then I understood her. It was about a baby, and he was only ten months old. This she said accusingly, as though his tender age were my responsibility. And he was left behind in hospital in the market-town. He was ill with "the new-monies."

"I know you got a telephone," she said, pointing up to the wires and the china insulators



"IT IS A BURDEN THAT WEIGHS EVEN UPON A GYPSY'S HEART; THE BURDEN OF LOVE"

on the wall of the house. "Be a kind gentleman and ask them at the hospital."

It was the same technique as the cadging of a penny, or the selling of a broom. But behind this racial professionalism was fear and agony of mind. Trying not to betray my sympathy, I brusquely told her to wait. She didn't answer and stood there like a statue in the dusk, the shadows gathering ominously around her.

I rang up the hospital and learned that the baby had passed the crisis and was sleeping peacefully. Then I went out into the garden and approached the woman. She stepped back a pace and frowned at me, waiting for the blow.

"He's better," I said; "he's out of danger."

She paused, and looked up at the trees before replying. The frown was still on her face as she spoke. "God bless you, gentleman," she said; "and has the lady a pair of old shoes to spare?"

I was about to say no, this was war-time, when I realised that she was speaking mechanically without personal meaning. I saw that her eyes were bright with the responsibility of love. So I just smiled at her and shook my head. "Good, eh?" I said. She gave me a wild glance, as though warning me off. So I said no more but stood watching her as she retreated into the orchard and over the stile.

The temptation was over. I went in to my own life, the life of a citizen at war against evil, and I knew once more that the burden will never lift. It is a burden that weighs even upon a gypsy's heart; the burden of love.

# GOLF AND THE COUNTRY CLUB

By BERNARD DARWIN

IT is a pleasant and little-known fact that the course of one of the most famous of golf clubs was originally laid out by a committee no single member of which had ever seen a golf course. That club is The Country Club (being the first of its kind it disdains any local title) at Brookline near Boston, where Francis Ouimet won the historic tie for the American Open Championship against Ray and Vardon in 1913. In 1932 it celebrated its jubilee and a history of the club was written by Messrs. Frederic H. Curtiss and John Heard. The Committee of the Club very kindly sent me a copy, since I had twice enjoyed their hospitality, and I read it with much pleasure, but it had become hidden behind others in the way that volumes have on the shelves of an untidy man, and when the other day something in the nature of a book-quake brought it suddenly to the surface, I re-read it almost as if it were new. Some of the facts about the club's foundation and especially about the early golf there seemed to me extremely engaging, and, as they will certainly be new to a good many readers, I venture to make an article of them.

One interesting and rather surprising point that the authors make is that about 1880 sport of any kind was a comparatively rare thing in the United States. The first college football game had only been played in 1875; tennis and rackets and lawn tennis were "the names of games played in England." Golf was utterly unknown and the only pursuits of the sort in which Bostonians indulged were "horses, boats and billiards." As long before as 1860 there had been an effort to promote a club "where encouragement can be given to the training and exhibition of running horses, and where races may be run freed from the presence or control of those persons who have made this sport objectionable to Gentlemen"; but this genteel bud had been nipped by the Civil War and nothing else was attempted for two and twenty years. Then The Country Club sprang into being primarily as a horse club, although lawn tennis and bowls were mentioned in the prospectus. There were horse races and these have in comparatively late years been revived with great splendour; there was a pack of hounds, there was polo, though this has died long since, because golf and polo cannot live together and the first and last holes of the golf course are across the polo field. The sum total of the Club's activities in the course of its career may be judged merely from the titles of the chapters: *Polo, Golf, Shooting, The Races, Curling, Figure Skating, Lawn Tennis*; and these leave out squash rackets and bicycle polo, which was formerly played with catastrophic results to the bicycles. Now however, as this is supposed to be a golfing article, let me turn to the golf, which from modest beginnings has long ago taken first place.

The golf course is to-day just 51 years old, since the first holes were made in 1892, but there is a fine flavour of antiquity about its story, which makes Brunsfield and Musselburgh seem almost modern by comparison. In 1892 then it appears that a young lady, whose name is not given, arrived from Pau to stay with Mr. Hunnewell who had an estate near Brookline, then not a suburb of Boston but in the real country. With her she brought some clubs and balls, mysterious implements of an unknown game which she had learnt under the shadow of the Pyrenees. She showed it to a few friends of her host, who began enthusiastically to hit the ball about in his meadows. So keen did they become that Mr. Hunnewell wrote to the Committee of the Country Club, announcing to them the glad tidings of this new game and suggesting that it could easily be introduced there at a cost not exceeding 50 dollars.

The Committee approved the suggestion and appointed Mr. Hunnewell and two others to lay out a course for this very moderate sum. The summer was by this time too far spent for anything to be done; winter was at hand but the three pioneers, no one of whom, as I said,

had ever seen a real course, were not idle. While the snow lay on the ground they walked hither and thither pondering where the holes should be, and when spring came they laid out a course of six. Then on a day in April, after a luncheon at the club, three of them, who having hit those shots in a field were deemed "experts," went out to play an exhibition match before their fellow-members. There never can have been nor can there ever be again a more propitious opening. The first hole was a short one and Mr. Hunnewell promptly holed his tee shot to it. The gallery were not unduly astonished and are said to have shown some disappointment when he failed to do it again from the next tee; but they stayed the course, walking all six holes, and from that moment the success of golf at The Country Club was assured.

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In the next year the Committee became more liberal; they authorised the spending of a whole hundred dollars for the improvement of the course. Three more holes were made under the eye of the famous Willie Campbell, who became the club professional. One more piece of history from a much later date, 1905, is, I think, worth giving. The course, by that time one of 18 holes, wanted lengthening and it was proposed to do so by taking in a piece of rocky, marshy, wooded ground. The authorities thought that this was a piece of midsummer madness and would have nothing to do with it. Thereupon, some enthusiastic people, whose faith was not to be shaken, raised the money among themselves and set about converting the swampy jungle into three new holes. Their leaders were two distinguished figures in American golf, whom many here will recall, Herbert Windeler, an Englishman, and Herbert Jaques. The only thanks they got for some time was that the three new holes were known respectively as "Windeler's Folly," "Jaques's Folly" and "Their Combined Folly," but in

the end, as the authors say, "the shoe of derision was found to fit the Club's foot better than it did that of the mad syndicate." The syndicate heaped coals of fire on the Club's head by giving them the new property, subject to the Club taking over the mortgage which had been necessary to pay for the work, and thus the, as I remember it, most picturesque part of the course came into being.

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The Country Club has become, as all the world knows, the parent of a vast number of country clubs over the whole American continent. Perhaps some future historian of the manners and customs of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries will be able to say why the country club habit has never really "caught on" in this country. Is it a matter of climate or geography or money or haply of a lack of chivalry on the part of Englishmen, in that they are not so anxious for the presence of their wives and sisters and cousins and aunts? I do not profess to know, but the fact is hardly to be questioned. Of course, we can all think of certain clubs, particularly near London, which are in the nature of country clubs. We can also think of a golf club that possesses a lawn tennis court or two, another a curling pond discreetly hidden in the rough, and so on; but generally speaking the players of different games in this country "keep themselves to themselves" and do not fuse their interests. The subscription to a country club in the United States makes our British hair stand on end, but it is not, perhaps, quite so alarming as it appears at first sight. The American golfer is apt to belong to one club; Britons are apt to belong to a good many and that makes a difference. Perhaps after the war, when we all have to draw in our horns, people will tend more to belong to just one club for a combination of several games. However, I am not a prophet as to social phenomena and can do no more than wonder.

## NIGHT FISHING FOR PEAL

By T. C. BRIDGES

FROM its source on the High Moor to lovely Dartmeet, where it merges with its sister stream to form the Double Dart, the West Dart's course is but 15 miles. Not a big river, yet it has some noble pools, and of these the largest and, perhaps, the most beautiful is Brakyfirs. It lies in the deep valley just below the spot where the little Swincombe comes down out of the great waste of Fox Tor Mire.

The ancient tenement of Great Sherberton, said to be seven centuries old, looks down upon it and high above the opposite bank rises the rock-crowned crest of Bellever. The pool takes its name from the coppice of firs which stands on its southern side and is famous for the best peal and salmon fishing on the river.

In Irish loughs, Welsh rivers and Scottish estuaries sea trout rise by day. For some mysterious reason the peal of the West Dart will hardly ever take a fly in daytime. The only exception is when the water is clearing after a big flood.

So nearly all our peal fishing on the Moor is done by night—from darkness to midnight and again just before dawn: these are the hours when peal are most likely to take. We would go down after dinner taking our tackle, sandwiches, a thermos, torches, a couple of rugs—for at this height the nights are never warm—fix up a camp in a convenient spot, set up our rods and wait until it was dark enough to begin.

Tricky work, this night fishing, for Dart banks are broken and full of pitfalls. And you must not allow a gleam from your torch to touch the water. That will put every fish down for an hour. So the best thing is to pick your stance before dark and stick to it. The beauty of Brakyfirs is that there are several good stances and that peal rise in all parts.

There can be no mistake about the rise. Peal come up with a fine splash. Often there is

a sort of winnowing sound which has puzzled me. One casts in the direction of the splash or of the ripples if one can see them in the starlight, and, if the fish takes hold, there is no lack of excitement. One learns to keep the point well up and hold the fish harder than in daylight. For this reason most of us use 2x gut.

Fishing like this at night, you never quite know what may happen. Often a small brown trout takes your peal fly; once, when I was fishing with a friend on Brakyfirs, an 11-lb. salmon took his fly and, between us, we somehow got the fish to bank. We had no gaff but managed to tail him.

One of the finest fishermen on Dartmoor 30 years ago was Martin. He was the first to take me out and instruct me in the art and mystery of peal fishing. One night he was fishing above Brakyfirs in the long, deep, narrow pool which is spanned by the fisherman's bridge. He hooked a peal, had beaten it and was bringing it in when there was a terrific rush. The line screamed from his reel, his cast snapped. An otter had gone off with his fish.

Equally odd was an experience of Jack Stanton, a bachelor who made his headquarters at a moorland farm. One night he came down with me to Brakyfirs: he took the north side of the pool, I the south, but he got to work before I did. I heard the swish of his line as he cast into the darkness, then a howl of dismay.

"The damn fish has gone up in the air!" he called. So it had, only it wasn't a fish but an unfortunate moorhen which his cast had fouled. And a sweet job he had to release it.

Not the least pleasant part of a night on Brakyfirs were the hours between midnight and four in the morning, when we rolled up in our rugs, ate our sandwiches, drank our hot coffee and lay dozing in the heather, with the bright stars overhead and the never-ceasing murmur of the river in our ears.



# AN OLD CRICKET SCRAP-BOOK

By ALFRED COCHRANE

THE photographs accompanying this article are reproduced from the cricket scrap-book of the late Lord Forster, who from 1920 to 1925 was Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia. It was the irony of circumstance that he, who had in his youth been a first-class cricketer, should, as the holder of his high office, have lent his patronage to ten Test matches of which the visiting teams from England lost nine and won one. In a preface which he wrote afterwards to a cricket book by M. A. Noble, a well-known Australian captain of former days, he said that all one could do was to sympathise with England and congratulate Australia.

The newspaper cuttings in the scrap-book, with their scores and reports of various matches, cover the seasons from 1883 to 1889, from the first year when Harry Forster, as he was known to his many friends, played for Eton to his last year in the Oxford eleven. To me much of the collection has a special interest, for I was with him in the University team of 1888, and it is a real pleasure to be reminded of one of the best and most attractive of the many good

still wanted with a quarter of an hour to go. No further wicket was lost, and the winning hit was made on the stroke of time by Butler, the Harrow captain, who made 48, not out, an innings to which his side owed their victory.

The bowling and fielding of Eton brought them great credit. Bromley-Martin, a first-rate slow bowler, took ten wickets in the match, and Forster, though he did little with the bat, had the satisfaction of clean bowling Watson in the second innings and of running out another Harrovian by a fine piece of fielding. The two sides were exceptionally strong, for of the 22 boys engaged 10 afterwards became cricket blues, five at Oxford and five at Cambridge.

In 1886, his first year at Oxford, Forster played in one of the trial matches against the M.C.C. For various reasons only five of the regular side, which afterwards beat Cambridge, were available. The chief feature of the game was that W. G. Grace added to his many remarkable performances by scoring a hundred and taking all ten wickets in Oxford's second innings.

field in any position and a sure catch. Now he made a marked advance in batting. Tall and well made, he relied mainly on his forward play, and he found the fast wickets of the Jubilee summer well adapted to his style. From the time the fine weather began he was a certainty for the Oxford eleven.

In their later trial matches this eleven, under the captaincy of J. H. Brain, came out in wonderfully good form. Their great triumph was the defeat of Surrey, the champion county of the year, and with an enormous total of 555, to which K. J. Key contributed 281, they beat Middlesex in an innings. When the final choice of the team to play against Cambridge was made, an accident to one of the side made room at the last moment for George Scott, an Eton contemporary of Forster's, a selection which was attended with the most happy results.

The University match was a great success, favoured with beautiful weather and attended by vast crowds. There was much good batting and many runs were made before Oxford won by seven wickets. Scott, who always seemed to be at his best at Lord's, scored 100 in his first innings and 66 in his second. His 66 was a brilliant innings, but in making his hundred he was lucky in being missed more than once, and in Oxford's first effort, the critics thought Forster's faultless 60, not out, was the best display. Oddly enough, the Cambridge last choice also made a century. This was Eustace Crawley, the old Harrovian, who had given the Eton bowlers so much trouble two years before.

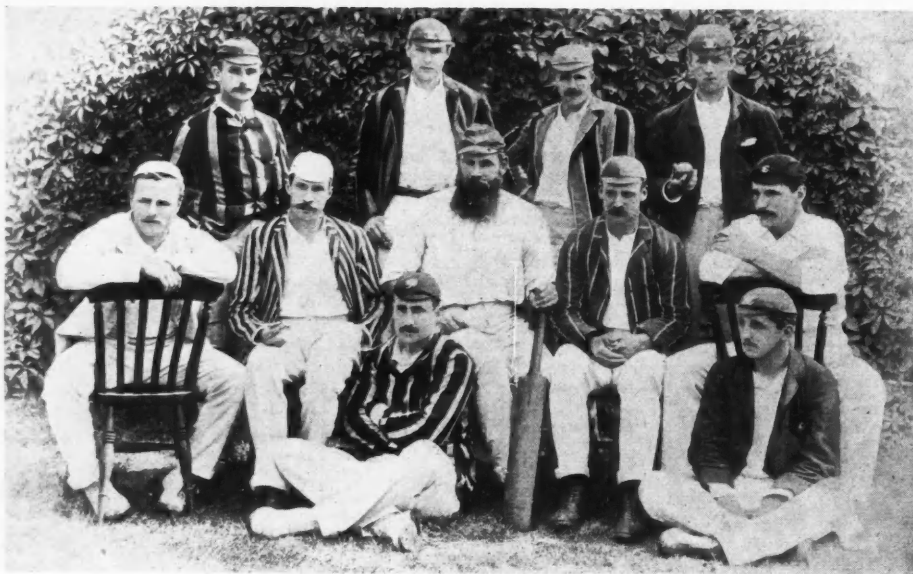
In the same season Forster enjoyed the distinction of being selected for the Gentlemen against the Players both at Lord's and at the Oval. The two matches were played in the same week, and were not particularly interesting for the Gentlemen were easily beaten in both. Professional cricket was very strong at the time and the amateurs were altogether outclassed by the powerful combination which the Players brought against them.

No greater contrast to the fine summer of the Jubilee year can be imagined than the wet season of 1888. After the Oxford term was over I joined the University team on tour and so come again into the scrap-book. Some of the old scores revive memories which I must admit are more curious than agreeable. There was a most depressing affair at Manchester, against Lancashire, when we seemed to have the game in our hands, only to collapse at the finish and lose by 20 runs.

This was followed by a further sensation at the Oval, when Surrey made 650 against us, Walter Read scoring 338. Forster bowled with great steadiness for the best part of two days and took four wickets. The only thing I did to help was, towards the end of their innings, to catch M. P. Bowden at slip. He was the pleasantest of opponents, but a highly dangerous batsman, and quite capable of adding another hundred or two on his own account. I remember that he appealed, as he was well justified in doing, for the catch, if it was one, was very near the ground. However, when some humorist told him that, with the score over 600, first bounce was quite good enough, he retired smiling.

Our reply to Surrey's huge total was also in its way a curiosity, for our two opening batsmen, Gresson and Simpson, defied the Surrey attack for over two hours, and when the match was abandoned owing to rain had made 47 runs without either of them getting out. The rain which caused the abandonment continued on and off for the next fortnight.

The University match of 1888 was the occasion of a course of action which was said at the time to be without precedent and which has not, I think, ever been repeated. The Monday was about the worst day in point of weather that can be imagined, for not only was there incessant rain, but it was so dark that you could hardly see more than a few yards. Several of us spent the morning in the billiard-room that used to be at Lord's. There was



1.—THE GENTLEMEN AT THE OVAL, 1887

Left to right: (standing) A. Newnham, H. W. Forster, E. H. Buckland, E. A. Nepean; (middle row) A. M. Sutthery, A. E. Stoddart, W. G. Grace, K. J. Key, W. W. Read; (sitting in front) M. B. Hawke, H. Philipson

comrades with whom I took the field more than 50 years ago. The book contains, as may be supposed, a record of cricket of all sorts, school, college, country house, Zingari, as well as first-class engagements. From this medley I have selected a few matches which from one reason or another seem worthy of comment.

In Forster's first two summers at Eton as a member of the eleven the match against Harrow was ruined by the weather, but in 1885 he took part in as thrilling a struggle as was ever fought out between the two great schools. Eton, going in first, made 265, a total which looked satisfactory enough, but Harrow, thanks to a remarkable second wicket partnership, replied with 219 for 1, and left off with much the better of the position. The not-outs were A. K. Watson, who eventually made 135, and Eustace Crawley, who made 100. On the second day this heavy run-getting was not kept up, for the 9 remaining Harrow wickets added only 89 runs, and Eton, 59 to the bad, were all out in their second innings for 151. Harrow thus found themselves at five o'clock in the evening with 96 to win and two hours in which to get them. This apparently simple task was found to be one of extreme difficulty, and, as time went on, and wickets continued to fall, the excitement round the ground was intense. There were 7 men out for 73, and 17 runs were

Later in the year Forster made several appearances for his native county of Hampshire. In those days there was no official classification of the counties, and it was left to the sporting Press to say which were first-class and which were not. In these conditions the Hampshire programme shows opponents of every class, strong or weak, and their representatives could gain experience of first-class cricket by fixtures with Surrey, Sussex or Kent. Forster also played at Scarborough for I Zingari against the Gentlemen, and had quite a good match.

The following season of 1887 was the best of Forster's career. Among the many summers to which I can look back, remembering some and forgetting others, there is none that stands out like the summer of Queen Victoria's first Jubilee. From early June until late August, there was a continuous blaze of sunshine, and the whole country seemed to give itself up to rejoicing and festivity. The sporting events of the London season, Ascot, Lord's, Henley, were more crowded and more gay than ever. This scrap-book brings it all back again with its old enchantment.

Forster had always been a player of value to any side for his bowling and fielding alone. He was a slow left-hand bowler, steady and keeping an excellent length, as well as a good



never the slightest prospect of play, and in the afternoon all idea of cricket was given up.

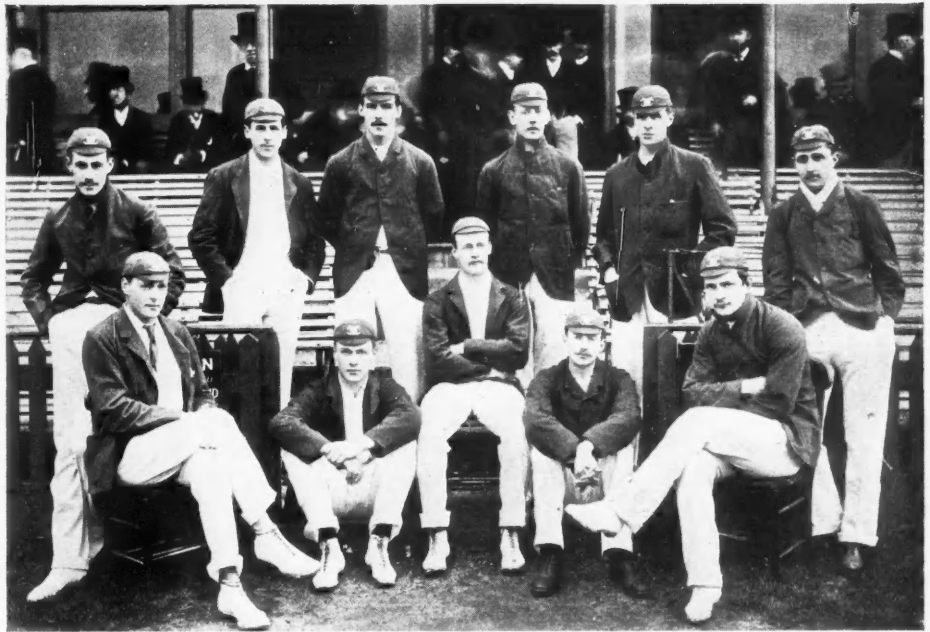
On the Tuesday and Wednesday, though more than once interrupted by rain, a certain amount of cricket was possible. The usual practice at that time was to rope off the wicket during the intervals and spectators used to gather round the small enclosure to examine the bowlers' footprints and interesting details of that kind. The remaining expanse of turf was, at fashionable matches, covered by crowds of people promenading up and down, and greeting their friends. In fine weather this moving panorama was one of the sights of the day. Now, for the first time in my experience, the whole centre of the arena was guarded by ropes and groundsmen, so that nobody could go on it and the usual promenade was not possible.

The position on the Wednesday evening was that Cambridge had batted twice, making 171 and 170, and that Oxford in their single innings had scored 121. Most of us supposed that the match had ended in a draw, but someone suggested that we should go on for a fourth day and this singular arrangement, after some discussion, was adopted. My recollection of the matter is not clear, but I have an idea that we greeted the decision with surprise rather than enthusiasm.

The sequel, however, looked at across half a century, is amusing. On the Thursday we went up to Lord's and the Cambridge men were all ready to turn out and field, for no rain was falling, though there were dark clouds about and the weather prospect was not promising. Play was about to start when the most tremendous thunderstorm burst over the ground. I remember seeing spectators crowding for shelter into the empty coaches and carriages which were standing round the ring, and the wickets partially submerged in a miniature lake. It looked as if no cricket would be possible for about a week, so we were allowed to disperse.

Forster played again for Oxford in 1889, but there is not room in the scrap-book for more than one or two games at the beginning of that season, and these are of no special interest. In addition to his cricket experiences, he represented Eton at racquets and played as partner to Philipson in the Public Schools competition of 1885. The Eton pair reached the final, in which, after a close fight, they lost to Harrow by three games to two.

A few years after he went down from Oxford, Forster entered Parliament as member for the Sevenoaks division of Kent, and thenceforth



2.—THE OXFORD XI OF 1888 AT LORD'S

Left to right: (standing) A. C. M. Croome, F. H. Gresson, G. Fowler, E. A. Nepean, F. J. N. Thesiger, H. Philipson; (seated) H. W. Forster, E. T. B. Simpson, W. Rashleigh, Lord G. Scott, A. H. J. Cochrane

political duties took up much of his time. Any review of his public services would be out of place in an article of this kind. But appropriate reference may be made to the distinction earned by him at golf, a game at which in later days he excelled. In 1914 he was elected captain of the Royal and Ancient at St. Andrews, and is understood to have been the only captain to win a scratch medal during his year of office, for at the Spring Meeting he carried off the second prize, the silver medal, with a score of 79. In the year in which he was captain of the Royal and Ancient he was also captain of the Royal St. George's at Sandwich, and when in the autumn the war upset everything, it was decided by both clubs to postpone further elections. Thus his term of office lasted for five years, a circumstance which is, I believe,

without precedent. In 1919 he was honoured by being nominated as president of the Marylebone Cricket Club.

Of the Gentlemen's team of 1887, seen in Fig. 1, Forster, Buckland, Nepean, Key and Philipson played for Oxford and Sutherland for Cambridge that summer; Hawke, afterwards Lord Hawke, captained Yorkshire, and Newnham, a fast bowler, had appeared for Gloucestershire with some success. Grace, Stoddart and Read were three of the great amateur batsmen of the day.

Of the 22 University cricketers in 1888 three were noted in after life, Forster as Governor-General of Australia, and both Thesiger (afterwards Lord Chelmsford) and Thomas (on the Cambridge side), afterwards the Marquess of Willingdon, as Viceroy of India.

## THE NEW OAKS AND DERBY

FROM the point of view of the bloodstock breeding industry which, after all is said and done, is, so far as racing is concerned, the only thing that matters at the moment, the contests for the fourth war-time celebrations of the Oaks and the Derby were eminently satisfactory, in as much as they were won by three-year-olds in Why Hurry and Straight Deal, who were bred and owned by two comparatively recent enthusiasts in Mr. J. V. Rank and Miss Dorothy Paget. Both owners since they joined the bloodstock world have spent both time and money to support and further the interests of the British thoroughbred.

For the New Oaks, which was run for on the first day (Friday) of the meeting, 13 of the original entry of 68 paraded in the paddock. Regarded as a whole they were a fair to medium collection of fillies. On looks the chestnuts Tropical Sun and Waterfleet, who are two really lovely specimens of their sex, rather stood out. The latter, who belongs to and was bred by Lady Wentworth and leased by her to Mr. Green, is the more attractive as she has her coloration accentuated by two white hind socks. They are both of an ideal type for brood mares for the future: Waterfleet was unfortunately a victim to the ills of her sex which, maybe, accounted for her fading out in the race. The late Thousand Guineas winner Herringbone is of a different build. Of the real varminty sort, reminding one of Rockfel, she looked fit to run for her life. Ribbon, who ran-up to this filly of Lord Derby's in the earlier classic, was more

muscled-up than then. Maybe she is a trifle small but every bit of her is good. Noontide and Tidworth, the latter adorned with blinkers, were another couple to admire and did credit to their trainer at Manton, while Why Hurry, who was first in the paddock and paraded by herself for a long time, is of medium build, was the third of the chestnuts in the field, and has, perhaps, too much white about her to appeal to everybody.

Rather "flash" though she is, she ran a great race and just beat Ribbon (badly hampered soon after the start), with Tropical Sun (the favourite), further away, third, and Herringbone, officially placed fourth. Why Hurry is home-bred and a daughter of the Ascot Gold Cup winner Precipitation (Hurry On) and comes from Cybiane, a Blandford mare who was bred by Vicomte de Fontarce and was out of Simone Vergnes, by Diadumenos. Both Ribbon and Tropical Sun were also bred by their owners and while the former is by the St. Leger winner Fairway out of the Doncaster Cup heroine Bongrace, the latter is by the Derby and St. Leger winner Hyperion from the Oaks victress Brulette, a French-bred mare by Bruleur, who was bought by the late Lord Woolavington for about £5,000.

On the second day (Saturday), the celebration of the Derby drew a huge crowd, from everywhere, somehow to the July Course. How its constituents ever got there is a problem. How, if ever, they got home on the Saturday night is another. No matter, of the original entry of 72, 23 colts came under the orders of

the starter. The best, on looks, in the paddock were, to my mind, Fair Trial's chestnut son High Chancellor; Lord Astor's Way In, who is also a chestnut and is by Fairway from Hurry On's daughter Instantaneous; Scottish Union's half-brother Victory Torch; the neat, compact Flight Commander, even though disfigured by blisters on both hocks; Pink Flower, who was even more muscled-up than in the "Guineas"; and the extra good-looking, bay Hyperion colt Deimos.

Honestly there was nothing striking about Straight Deal, who is just a very ordinary bay of medium size and symmetrical contour. Despite that he, or rather his jockey Tom Carey, who in pre-war days was the leading rider at Northolt Park, proved just too good for Umiddad and Nasrullah, who for once in his life did not try mulish-like imitations, with Precipitation's big overgrown half-brother Persian Gulf fourth and the "Guineas" winner Kingsway just beating Merchant Navy for the fifth position.

Save that he is by Solario, who won the St. Leger of 1925 so is now in his twenty-first year, Straight Deal is just as ordinary in pedigree as in looks. Bred by Miss Paget who bought his dam—Good Deal—as a four-year-old for 1,800 gs. at the December Sales of 1936, he is a second foal and was foaled in the month of March. Good Deal, who was about the best get which the Italian-bred Apelle ever sired in England, won seven races, worth altogether £4,194, and came from Weeds, a sprinting daughter of the Great Jubilee Handicap and

Liverpool Cup winner Arion from Dandelion, a Rochester mare whose only claim to notice is that in seven attempts her best effort was when she ran second over five furlongs in a minor event at Warwick. Weeds was Dandelion's only winning produce, and she won eight races over short distances, worth in all £2,592.

By no flight of the imagination can this be looked upon as an ancestry suggestive of classic honours. Still there it is; Straight Deal won and there is no sense in detracting from the merits of a horse who was, without a doubt, the best colt in the race on the great day. Tom Carey rode a great race; Walter Nightingall, whose uncle—Arthur—rode Ilex, Why Not and Grudon to victory in their Grand Nationals, deserves every credit for the perfect condition in which he put the winner down; while the heartiest congratulations of all interested will be extended to Miss Dorothy Paget, not only

upon breeding her first classic winner, and a Derby winner at that, but upon being the first lady-owner in history to have owned both a Grand National winner and a Derby winner. Her success on the racecourse under Jockey Club Rules has been too long delayed. May it long continue and increase.

This may easily come about, and soon, as, in the Coventry Stakes which, with the Queen Mary Stakes, was transferred from the ordinary peace-time Ascot programme, her well-proportioned bay two-year-old colt Orestes gave Carey another winning ride and put paid to the pretensions of the better-fancied Happy Land-ing, His Excellency and eight others. A son of the Italian Derby winner Donatello II, who now stands at the Brickfields Stud in Newmarket, Orestes comes from Orison, a Friar Marcus mare which Miss Paget bought from Lord Howard de Walden for 1,550 gns. at the

December Sales of 1936. She was from Orlass, the dam also of Shian Mor, Hakem and Orta.

Reference to the other transferred Ascot race, the Queen Mary Stakes for two-year-old fillies, must be brief. The winner of this turned up in Fair Fame, a comely filly by Fairway from Empire Glory, a daughter of Singapore. Bred by the late Lord Glanely, this filly came up for auction as a yearling last August and was knocked down to Lord Willoughby de Broke's bid of 600 gns. Early this season she was sold privately, to Mrs. B. Lavington and it was in her colours that she won this event and, incidentally, proved herself to be the best young filly seen out this season so far. Mrs. Lavington, who comes from Wiltshire, is another newcomer, so, in every way, the Oaks and Derby Meeting was a great one for the "young entry."

ROYSTON.

## CORRESPONDENCE

### COTTAGES FOR LAND WORKERS

SIR,—There is an old proverb: "Experience teacheth fools, and he is a great one that will not learn by it." This applies forcibly to the *impasse* in the building of cottages for agricultural workers. It is now certain that the cottages will not be built soon enough to help the 1943 harvest. The cause of failure is not far to seek: it is due to lack of imagination. In this case, to quote the proverb, experience has not taught—I won't say fools; it has not been of any assistance to the wise.

The instructions which the Ministry of Works issued to local authorities rightly drew attention to the shortage of timber and transport. No doubt there is a shortage of timber at the docks and depots, but so far as Herefordshire is concerned there is enough home-grown timber and to spare to build all the cottages allocated to this important agricultural area. As to transport, while admitting the limitations there is still some transport available and even if that were reduced there is no reason why we, in the twentieth century, should not do as well as or better than our ancestors of the fifteenth who built good-looking cottages with local material and without mechanical transport. We have become so accustomed to abundance both as to materials and transport that we quite ignore what good work our ancestors did without either. There is more than enough local material in this county to build double the number of cottages allocated—any amount of stone, clay and lime, and as a temporary measure plenty of straw for roofing. Tiling could come later. But, so far as I can see, no use is made of these benefits.

All the cottages in this county could be speedily and cheaply built if only we had imaginative and energetic leadership. Under the recent instructions from London the rural authorities are helpless. They feel they must comply with instructions from London, and unfortunately these do not include any advice about the use of local materials.

If only one competent builder and one experienced architect could be appointed in each county to design and build cottages, making the most of local building material, the problem would solve itself at very much less cost than under the existing order of things. If we do not benefit by past experience it follows that we must learn afresh—a long process. Our present-day architects and builders have learned by long experience the value of traditional methods in the use of local materials. Why not use this experience in the present exceptional circumstances?—G. H. JACK, *The Manor House, Breinton, near Hereford.*

From Mr. Alfred C. Bossom, M.P.

SIR,—For close on half a century, in peace and in war, COUNTRY LIFE has

presented to all lovers of good architecture the world over photographs of the most enjoyable and sensitive examples of Britain's traditional life and background.

Items of particular interest to which we would be well advised to refer at the present time are the materials and treatments of our smaller domestic buildings—homes and structures—built in a wide range of local media such as ledged or rubble stone, brick, chalk, cob, half-timber and pisé, those cherished cottages faced with flint or surfaced by some plaster covering, with roofs of tile, thatch, heavy slate or thin slabs of stone. All who love the old-world villages of the Cotswolds, Gloucestershire and almost every county, delight in the effect of local materials in their natural setting.

To-day, England requires at least 13,000,000 or more homes to house the population, and, when hostilities cease, we are faced with the prospect of a building programme of something like 4,000,000 new homes, a great many of which will replace derelict slums, bombed areas or unsatisfactory rural cottages. This will mean that approximately one in every four houses throughout the country will be a new one erected during the next dozen years or so. What a blight this would be if it meant that every one of these was more or less alike, and a duplication of the brick and tile council houses of the last two decades! Would our children, or the discriminating world ever forgive us if we permitted this to occur?

Between 1919-39 we pulled down a great many outworn houses and rebuilt from three to four million new ones. Hardly any of these, however, were fashioned from local materials in the strict tradition of their own neighbourhood—with the result that many are dreary, uncongenial and out of place in their environment. We must not let the next two decades add to our "blot-on-the-landscape" architecture. Do let us look to our natural background so that this great building effort to be may harmonise, merge and be a part of the whole.

Our own historic domestic architecture teems with examples of beautiful prototypes that could most advantageously be studied when preparing for the great housing drive which may soon be upon us.—ALFRED C. BOSSOM, *House of Commons.*

### A GUERNSEY IDOL

SIR,—Although the worship of idols has ceased in Christian countries, a pleasant little ceremony was regularly performed at St. Martin's in Guernsey (until the occupation of the Channel Islands by the Germans), where a curious idol many hundreds of years old is used as one of the gate-posts to the churchyard.



THE IDOL AT THE CHURCH GATES

See letter "A Guernsey Idol"

In the early days of the war the villagers of St. Martin's used to garland the idol, which is locally believed to represent Atargatis, the Syrian Nature goddess, with flowers and evergreens, as local legend led them to believe that these decorations could stop the war—a curious belief, but then legends are often difficult to understand.

However, from times immemorial the idol has been a charm against the fates, and many of the older people of the island remember its having been similarly decorated on past occasions to invoke a blessing. So much so that a few years ago a sceptical churchwarden ordered its removal and destruction, and it was actually taken away and broken into two pieces (as will be seen from the photograph); but the outcry was so strong that it was cemented together and set up in its present practical position.

Although the image must have been carved centuries ago, the features are in a remarkably fine state of preservation. There also appears to be a chaplet encircling the forehead, and a rough design suggesting some sort of religious drapery hangs over the shoulders.—P. H. LOVELL, *Pinner, Middlesex.*

### ROSES OR RAILINGS

SIR,—The question of "railings" or "no railings" likely to arise after the war has been met by a rose hedge covering the 100-ft. frontage of this

house scheduled as an Ancient Building. It is in full bloom now and is a feature of the town. You might care to apply this instance to a generalisation dealing with this important aspect of town and country amenities.—RUDOLPH B. BURNEY (Major), *The Manor House, Tenterden, Kent.*

### THE CASE FOR PASTEURISATION

SIR,—As one who has suffered from the prolonged fever caused by the germ of contagious abortion from infected milch cows, I should like to assure your correspondent, Mr. D. MacLeod, that this illness can be a very serious matter for human beings.

The germ is *brucellus abortus*, and the illness is known as undulant fever. I was kept in bed for 13 weeks and was then in such a weak condition that it was a further 12 weeks before I could return to work. Oddly enough, another victim of *abortus* was the local bacteriologist who identified my germ, and I believe there were other cases in the neighbourhood.

Since my illness I have always been most careful to drink pasteurised milk, or milk from cows which could not be suspected of contagious abortion, my own Jersey, acquired after my illness, being an example.—O. H., *Surrey.*

### No. 4, MAIDS OF HONOUR ROW, RICHMOND

SIR,—I am indeed sorry that Mr. Duncan, in his letter published in COUNTRY LIFE for June 11, 1943, should find occasion to feel "disappointed" at certain changes which have taken place at No. 4, Maids of Honour Row, Richmond Green, since the days when he knew it.

Mr. Duncan refers to the painted decorations of the hall as having been "cleaned almost naked"; they may well now look like that to an eye which previously saw them in the dark condition shown in the second of the accompanying photographs, taken in 1935, just before the panels were cleaned. I must admit that no one was more surprised than myself at the rich colours which emerged from their obscurity during the process of removing the varnish. In actual point of fact, Mr. Cave, far from stripping them, was most careful to preserve a certain patina of the old varnish on the panels, which has prevented their having that very "naked" appearance of which Mr. Duncan complains, and which, alas! is only too common a feature of many old paintings cleaned in recent years. I think I can reassure Mr. Duncan that the removal of the varnish will in no way jeopardise their future preservation.

Mr. Duncan also regrets that the stiles are not "as Heidegger knev them." Presumably he would refer to their immediately former colour of





HEIDEGGER'S PAINTED HALL IN 1914 AND 1935

See letter "No. 4, Maids of Honour Row, Richmond"

A GEORGE I SILVER  
TEA-SET

chocolate brown; if so, I should be interested to know whether he can produce any evidence that this was actually the colour which surrounded the panels in 1745. I cannot claim that the present green was the original colour as Heidegger knew it; but at any rate it was taken from an 18th-century source and forms a fitting enough frame for Jolli's exuberant Venetian barocco.

With regard to the dining-room door, mentioned by Mr. Duncan as being in the side wall "opening into the passage," this certainly remains as both he and Heidegger knew it. The second door, between the hall and the dining-room, also has always been a door, at least as far as the hall is concerned, though, if it did not originally communicate with the dining-room, it may have only given access to a cupboard; it can be seen on the extreme right of the first photograph. I can, therefore, assure Mr. Duncan that none of the panels in the hall has been destroyed. The archway, which contains this second door, was there when I came into possession of the house; perhaps Mr. Duncan can inform me what that particular side of the room looked like in his day, as I should be much interested to know this.

The other photograph shows the appearance of Heidegger's hall in 1914; it would seem that at least one of Mrs. Duncan's successors scarcely followed her excellent advice.—EDWARD CROFT MURRAY, 4, Maids of Honour Row, Richmond Green.

SIR.—The best contemporary representation in painting of English 18th-century goldsmiths' work that I know is contained in the accompanying picture of a family at tea. It measures 39 ins. by 49 ins. and was painted in about 1725 by a Welsh artist, Gwillym Williams, and is now the property of the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths, to whom it was bequeathed by the late Mr. Lionel Crichton in 1938. It shows, with faithful accuracy and detail, individual types of silver executed by English goldsmiths during the reign of George I, including the Huguenot goldsmiths in London named by Mr. Alfred Jones in his article, *Silver Wrought by the Courtauld Family* (COUNTRY LIFE, April 23).

The silver articles—besides a cup and saucer of Chinese porcelain upon the table and the cups in the three tea-drinkers' hands—consist of teaspoons in a silver tray, sugar tongs, a sugar basin and cover, a tea caddy, a hot-water jug, a large slop basin and a teapot upon a spirit stand.

Another, smaller, version of this painting showing a similar set of tea things, but with different figures taking tea, is preserved with the collections of English silver in the Victoria and Albert Museum.

The similarity of the pictures and their differences are so remarkable

that the two are well worth comparison. This smaller version, which measures 26 ins. by 30 ins., shows precisely the same tea things but an entirely different family, similarly posed and holding their handleless cups in a variety of ways.

A great deal of thought then went to the elegant handling of a teacup. Fashionable young ladies studied the art of holding a cup in a coquettish or demure, yet provocative manner. The poet Young, picturing Lady Betty Germaine, who, it appears, drank her tea in a fashion already discredited, wrote:

Her two red lips affected zephyrs  
blow,  
To cool the Bohea and inflame the  
beau;  
While one white finger and a thumb  
conspire  
To lift the cup, and make the world  
admire.

It will be noticed that there is no milk jug in the picture. Indeed, for a long time after its introduction into this country, tea was imbibed without milk, in the Chinese manner; and it was not until about this time that a small silver jug for milk or cream accompanies the teapot. Even then, milk with tea was a rarity, as the following lines from a poem by Matthew Prior, *To a Young Gentleman in Love*, written about 1720, imply:

He kissed her on his bended knee;  
Then drank a quart of milk and tea.  
—H. CLIFFORD SMITH, *Highclere, near Newbury*.

AN ALLIANCE FOR  
AGRICULTURE

From Viscount Monck and Others.

SIR.—There have recently been published a number of plans for Agriculture after the war, some by organisations and individuals who are directly concerned with the industry, others by those who, though not part of the industry, are sincere in their opinions and hopes that it shall be maintained in a healthy condition after hostilities cease.

It is most encouraging that the future of Agriculture should be the concern of so many, and the increasingly wide interest in, and understanding of, agricultural problems is extremely heartening. It must however be apparent that, as in all other industries, the final presentation of its case and the maintenance of its rights must inevitably fall on those who are a part of the industry itself, and who depend upon it for their bread and butter. The three main parties concerned are the owners of agricultural land, the farmers and the farm-workers; but there are many other concerns such as the various agricultural societies and associations, auctioneers, suppliers of agricultural machinery, fertilisers and seeds, to name only a few, to all of whom the condition of agriculture is a matter of primary importance as affecting their own welfare.

Sooner or later the Government of the day will have to enter into negotiations with all those who have



THE FAMILY OF THREE



THE FAMILY OF FOUR

See letter "A George I Silver Tea-set"

practical interests in the land, and it is imperative, therefore, that all those interests be consolidated into one central body so that the collective voice of the industry can be heard and the Government's task made easier in so far as it would meet one representative body with, we hope, one united plan, instead of a multiplicity of bodies, each with its own plan.

Many big industries to-day have their Joint Consultative Committees in which representatives of the Trade Unions have equal voice with those of the organisation of employers, who together study the probable post-war conditions of their industries and plan accordingly, with or without consultation with the Government as each industry thinks proper.

In Agriculture we are of opinion that it is absolutely essential that this plan should be followed, and steps should be taken forthwith, with the co-operation of the Government if necessary, to create a thoroughly representative body of all the interests in the industry.

We should value the opinion of others on this matter, and would welcome correspondence from any who may care to write to us, no matter to what section of the great industry of Agriculture they may belong.—**ROLAND DUDLEY, Linkenholt Manor, Andover; FRANK HODGES, Rotherwood, Ashby-de-la-Zouch; G. MILLER MUNDY, Red Rice, Andover; MONCK, Northington, Overton, Basingstoke.**

#### CAST-IRON PRIMITIVES

SIR,—Mr. Clough Williams-Ellis's photograph of an early kitchener, attributed to the Coalbrookdale Foundry, and ascribed to a mid-19th-century date, prompts me to send you this photograph of a signed and dated piece. The pretty garden seat is inscribed as having been made from the first cast on December 18, 1847, at Bryn Amman Iron Works. The village of Bryn Amman lies up a valley under the Black Mountains some 18 miles north-east of Llanelli. The seat, which is now at Farley Hill Place, is of typical period design and of a kind that is becoming recognised again as an ornament to a garden.—**CURIUS CROWE.**



THE DOORWAY AND WINDOW OF THE THATCHED BUILDING

See letter "A Vanished Manor House"

#### LOYAL SUFFOLK YEOMEN

SIR,—When Boney threatened England in the 1790s many troops of fencible cavalry, or yeomanry, were



A CAST-IRON GARDEN SEAT OF 1847

See letter "Cast-iron Primitives"

formed all over the country. In Suffolk the first troops were raised at Bury in 1793, Lord Cornwallis commanding, and were entitled Suffolk Provisional Fencible Cavalry.

Under the Yeomanry Act of 1794 they were recognised as the Suffolk Yeomanry Cavalry, and I have a relic of these mounted Home Guards in the shape of a huge leather helmet, with metal comb and red and white plume bearing the title "1st Regt. Suffolk Yeomanry Cavalry." In 1805 there were nine troops in Suffolk, and a War Office Manual for Volunteer Cavalry, issued 1803, which belonged to one of the officers, is in Ipswich Library. They were armed with carbines, swords and pistols, and it was laid down: "the men to fire on the move and to take greatest care not to hit or burn the horse's head."

The regiment were at different times Light Dragoons, Lancers, and lastly became the Loyal Suffolk Hussars, with the Duke of York (George V) as Honorary Colonel. In the last war they served as the 15th (Yeomanry) Battalion The Suffolk Regiment, and were inspected by the King at Martlesham, Woodbridge, on November 10, 1914. After the war they were disbanded, but at the outbreak of the present German war they were represented by the 108th (Suffolk and Norfolk Yeomanry) Field Brigade R.A.—**ERNEST R. COOPER, Woodbridge.**

#### A VANISHED MANOR HOUSE

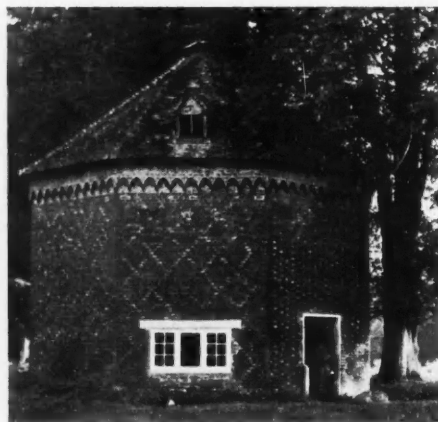
SIR,—Along the Oxford-Watlington road you will see, near Stadhampton, the huge wide-set stone posts of Ascott House. Behind them is a double avenue of lime trees, nearly 100 yds. wide, leading to where the house of the Dormer family once stood. It was burnt down before it was lived in, in

1662, and never re-built. At the top and behind the trees are two neat red-brick octagonal buildings, one on each side, though of different designs: one thatched, with a stone doorway and window, the other larger and tiled. Beyond the site of the house are ditches, tumps and ancient fishponds.—**F. R. W., Bristol, 3.**

#### A TOUR IN A PHAETON

SIR,—I have just read an old book—yet not so old—with a fine old-fashioned flavour, which is not without interest in these days of the return to the road of horsed vehicles—*A Tour in a Phaeton*, by John James Hissey, published 1889.

It was Hissey's custom to go on holiday in this fashion, and one envies the opportunities which were his. Here are a few of his titles: *An Old-fashioned Journey, A Drive through England On the Box Seat, A Holiday on the Road*. All these journeys were accomplished in the days not far removed from coaching times; and he notes with pleasure the then existing signs on wayside hostels of "Posting Horses." But he complains bitterly



THE TILED OCTAGONAL BUILDING

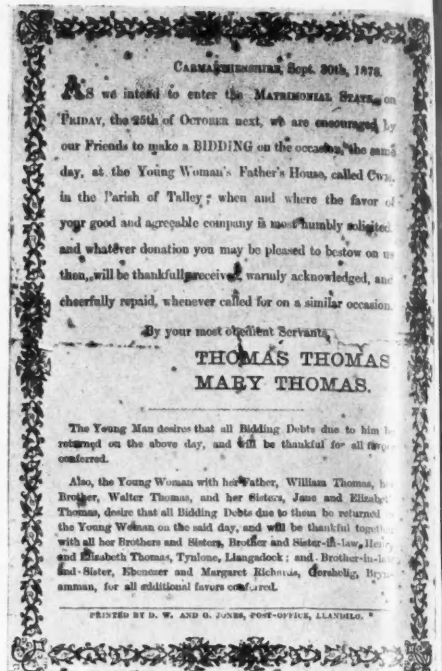
See letter "A Vanished Manor House"

of the neglect of the roads, and is ever ready to pour Ruskinian scorn on the railways.

At the conclusion of his tour in a phaeton, returning from Chingford through Epping Forest, he noted the carters coming home from Covent Garden, plodding along in the middle of the road, drivers fast asleep. The first one he awakened by sounding his horn, to be roundly abused for so doing, and then he watched to see what would happen with the succeeding carts. The horses of each, as they saw a vehicle in front of them, automatically pulled in to the side of the road, and then, on passing, immediately resumed the middle way—all the drivers fast asleep.

He gives one or two tips for such journeys: For example he was wont to take a spirit-lamp, a small allowance of whisky, tea and preserved provisions. These for emergencies. A copy of *Paterson's Roads*, £5 in small silver, and a horn—"if you can sound it!"

For his horses he saw to it that their water was given to them with the chill off and a handful of oatmeal added to the pail, and that they had straw for bedding each night. One day they were fed on oats with chaff,



A WELSH "BIDDING" HANDBILL

See letter "A Warm Invitation"

another with oatmeal or beans mixed with corn. And he remarks that they returned from these long trips fitter than when they set out.

One supposes that not many read Hissey to-day, but these volumes, full of folk-lore and old-fashioned things, are of considerable interest and charm.—**ALLAN JOBSON, Beauchamp Cottage, Crown Dale, S.E.19.**

#### A WARM INVITATION

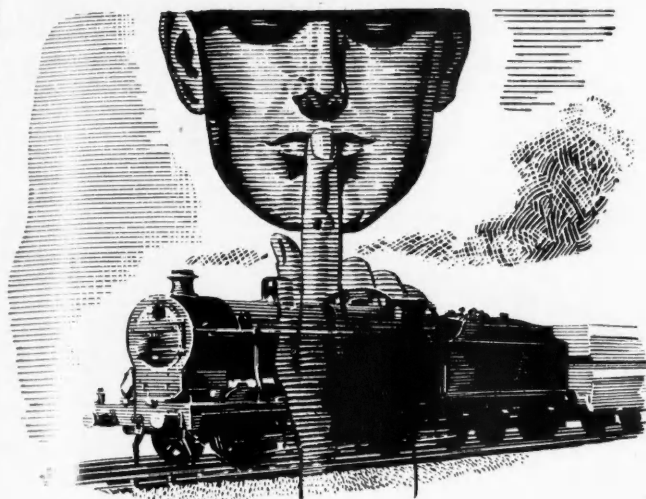
SIR,—You may like to publish the enclosed photographic copy of an old Welsh "Bidding" handbill. This was the usual custom and may still survive in some families. The leaflet was an invitation to the wedding, with the understood stipulation that no one would arrive empty-handed. Contributions might take the form of furnishing for the home or the farm, or of money, and a careful account of them was kept, to be scrupulously repaid to the same value when occasion offered in the donors' families.

It is said that this custom goes back to mediæval times, when the chief of a clan might personally act as bidder not only for his family but for his vassals. In those days it was an invitation delivered by word of mouth: the bidder was a definite character, perhaps a professional, well equipped with eloquence, and upon his efforts would depend the success of the gathering—in both senses. He was distinguished by a bonnet and staff decorated with garlands, and, greeting a family of neighbours, would proceed to state his mission with all the persuasiveness at his command.

This seems a very practical way of starting life for a young couple!—**M. W., Hereford.**

Major C. W. Hume, hon. secretary of the Universities Federation for Animal Welfare, writes to correct an impression which he thinks may have been caused by Mr. Wentworth Day's article *Consider the Rabbit* in our issue of June 11. He points out that there are two (not one only) methods of gassing rabbits: (1) by the use of sulphur fumes, which are, as Mr. Day said, extremely inhumane as they cause slow suffocation and (2) by the use of cyanide dust, which either causes death quickly or leaves no after effects if the animal is not killed outright.—**ED.**





## *The New* "SECRET SERVICE"

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going, supplies for factories, tanks, guns, food — an ever-lengthening list.

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TELEGRAMS: TRACTORS, HATFIELD

## POTATO BLIGHT

by

Dr. R. C. WOODWARD, Hawthorndale Laboratories,  
Jenlott's Hill Research Station

**N**EARLY 100 years ago they called it the Potato Murrain, and a plague of catastrophic proportions it turned out to be. It caused the Irish famine of 1845; it became widespread on the Continent. In Ireland alone in the years from 1845 to 1860 it exacted a toll of a million human lives. Science had not by that time thrown light on the cause of the epidemic. We know now that the potato crops were attacked and destroyed by a parasitic fungus which is still with us and is capable of causing equal havoc in modern times. But we also know enough about this parasite, fortunately, to avoid its dire consequences instigated both by drastic reduction of the crop by blighting of the haulm, and by spoilage of the harvested tubers.

**F**ROM its first appearance, generally in June or early July, when it is often first detected on the lower leaves of the plant from which it spreads and rapidly devastates the crop, until its reappearance the following season, the essential points of its life history are known. We know now that foliage should be protected during the danger period by the use of a copper spray such as home-made Bordeaux or one of the convenient ready-prepared mixtures for simple addition to water. It is not usually necessary to spray early varieties. When Potato Blight, as it is now called, is known to be in the district, or when first infections can be seen on the plants, or in any case before the plants meet between the rows, begin spraying. A subsequent spraying should be given in three weeks and, if the weather tends to be muggy and dull, a third application is strongly recommended.

On a small scale a knapsack or bucket pump sprayer may be used, but very satisfactory results may be obtained by the simple expediency of applying the spray through a watering-can with a fine rose.

**A**S the spores of the fungus are shed from the leaves on to the ground and are frequently washed down through the soil to the tubers, which they infect and cause to rot, the plants should be kept thoroughly and compactly earthed up. For the same reason the crop should not be lifted when green foliage, bearing living blight spores, is still present. A fortnight should intervene between the death of the haulms and digging. In some seasons it is advisable to cut off the haulms, which should always be put at once on the compost heap away from the crop. This destruction of the haulms not only makes it possible to hasten the lifting of the tubers during a period of dry weather, but also prevents their contamination by blighted haulms.

Even though every precaution is taken, some tubers become infected. These carry the disease through the winter as mycelium, or spawn, in the flesh of the tuber itself. Sprouts produced by these tubers bear on their surface spores of the parasite and it is these which are responsible for the dramatic re-appearance of the disease the following season.

It can be seen that, although diseased tubers inadvertently left in the ground or thrown carelessly aside provide the only means for the survival of the potato blight fungus from season to season, the application of this knowledge in attempts to eliminate the disease presents overwhelming practical difficulties.

Expert Advice Series issued by Plant Protection Ltd., Yalding, Kent

## FARMING NOTES

# WASTING FARM MACHINERY

**A**LMOST every farm in these days has more implements such as ploughs, cultivators and disc harrows than before the war. This is all too obvious just now, because when their work is done for a time they are left at the headland or collected together in the yard, but, all too often, are left unprotected from the weather. The war agricultural committees have a good deal of machinery now for working their own land and also for contract work on individual farms. Some of the committees are not much better than individual farmers in looking after their machinery. They have machinery depots, but the implements seem generally to be left in the open. It is a sign of grace that the mould boards of the ploughs are greased so as to stop them rusting, but these accumulations of precious machinery should be under cover. It is not a great matter to get hold of some corrugated iron sheets and some larch poles to erect an implement shed. Rust destroys much more than wear. We should be able to look to the war agricultural committees to set a good example in the care of machinery. It is true, of course, that many of their tractor drivers are not particularly skilled men and that they are liable to be careless. This is all the more reason why the committees should be extra particular in looking after their machinery and seeing that it does not waste unnecessarily. Some committees I know have good servicing arrangements. The Warwickshire Committee, for instance, has a well-equipped repair shop for its tractors, and the districts are encouraged to send in their tractors for overhaul before they become seriously worn. The ideal arrangement is for the committee to have a small reserve of renovated tractors so that one can be sent out immediately in exchange for a worn tractor. \*\*\*

**I**N the statistics released by the Ministry of Agriculture it appears that we had 150,000 tractors in the country last year compared with 55,000 in 1939. What is even more striking is that we had 1,175,000 tractor implements against 200,000 at the beginning of the war. This is an indication of the progress of mechanisation. We were lucky to be able to draw on American and Canadian supplies in the first two years of the war. Now America has turned over almost completely to war production and it seems most unlikely that we shall continue to get big consignments of tractor implements from there. We have to see that every heavy tractor and every implement we have is used to full capacity. It is thanks to mechanisation that farmers have been able to tackle so readily the giant tasks of the past three and a half years. The tillage acreage was increased by 52.8 per cent. up to 1942, and there has no doubt been a further increase for this harvest. All this additional cropping has been achieved with fewer skilled men. Some of the best of the young farmers and farm workers were in the Territorials and went off at the start of the war. Since then agriculture's man-power has been fairly well protected, but each year the land has lost some of the younger men. It is not lack of numbers but lack of experience that hampers the present labour force. \*\*\*

**T**HE biggest individual increase in the crops is the great addition to potato acreage. There has been an increase of 80.4 per cent. compared with pre-war. Oats comes next with

a 72 per cent. increase. Both of these have been virtually priority crops. More potatoes have been wanted each year to replace cereals, and almost every farmer in the country has been required to grow a minimum acreage. Oats have been a priority crop by reason of the insistence on the maintenance of winter milk supplies. While the imports of feeding-stuffs have fallen from 8,500,000 tons a year to 1,300,000 tons a year, the oat acreage has been greatly increased and most of the extra oats have gone to the dairy cows. The wheat acreage has been increased by 35.6 per cent. This refers to the 1942 figure compared with pre-war. There has certainly been a further increase for 1943. \*\*\*

**O**N the livestock side the total numbers of cattle show a slight increase compared with pre-war days. This increase must be entirely in dairy cattle. Too many thousands of acres of grazings in the Midlands and elsewhere have been ploughed up to allow of any increase in beef cattle. Indeed, there must be a marked decline in beef cattle if these were distinct from dairy cattle in the official returns. The trade for store cattle of beef type has not been extra keen this spring, which I take as another indication of the swing to dairy cattle. If they were all good dairy cattle this development would indeed be satisfactory. But breeding policy in our dairy herds seems to have become more indiscriminate in recent years. Mr. Hudson is quite right to insist on livestock improvement as one of the main planks in the platform of future policy. \*\*\*

**I**T is not surprising that sheep numbers have fallen by 17.8 per cent. compared with pre-war days. As with the beef cattle, the ploughing-up of permanent grass has reduced or eliminated the flocks of many farms. It would be interesting if the returns distinguished between all-grass sheep and arable sheep. The reduction in grass sheep has been inevitable, but there should be some increase in arable sheep. I am thinking not only of sheep folded on turnips but of sheep run on the short term leys which are an essential part of the arable cropping system. \*\*\*

**P**IGS have taken a nasty knock with a reduction of 51.9 per cent. From the start of the war pigs and poultry have been discouraged. There was a price deterrent for some time and the farmers were told that they would get virtually no feeding-stuffs for pigs. Even if they grow barley they are not allowed now to feed more than the tailings to pigs and poultry. Pigs do not relish oats, which is the only cereal that the farmer can feed freely to his livestock. The pig is one of the best farm scavengers, and to-day we have much bigger quantities of by-products like chat potatoes and, on the larger farms, tail corn which pigs can convert into human food most economically. Supplies of kitchen waste are available from the big towns, and pigs will fatten quite well on this. Moreover, meat supplies are short and fat pork or bacon is always welcomed. A slight encouragement to pig breeding is now given in the additional allowance of feeding-stuffs for farrowing sows. But it is questionable whether pig-breeding and pig-feeding is a profitable undertaking at the present time. I have gone out of the business myself and I have no figures to guide me. It would be interesting to know the experience of others. CINCINNATUS.



## THE ESTATE MARKET

## HIDDEN DAMAGE TO HOUSES

OWNERS who acted promptly in claiming for war damage and succeeded in getting the work of repair put in hand early in the day may have thought, quite rightly, that, unless there was further enemy action in their districts, the matter would be satisfactorily ended. Recent experiences in certain suburban areas, however, are rather disquieting. They tend to disclose that movement is still going on in many structures, indicating of progressive if slow deterioration.

A well-known surveyor had his attention called, a week or two ago, to the recent fall of thin strips of plaster from the entrance halls and on the staircases of some suburban houses. Plaster did not show any tendency to fall from the exterior walls to get out of the cracks, and a careful examination therefore made inch by inch inside and outside the houses. This brought to light, in the case of one pair of detached houses, a crack down the middle of the premises from one side to the other, rather suggesting that heavy vibration, to which the premises had been subject during raids, and somehow lifted the front portion of the houses a fraction of an inch and then set it down again. The pair of houses in question carried two or three superficial cracks, originating apparently soon after the completion of the building work some years ago—the almost inevitable settlement of houses on a clay soil—but nothing to cause any anxiety. Now the recently discovered cracks have been carefully delineated and are marked with test-papers, so that the extension of damage if there is any will be seen.

## "GROUTING" AS A REPAIR

IT would seem that a great deal of war damage to ordinary houses might be cheaply and expeditiously cured by the use of the "grouting" method. "There were no footings, and the lime in the mortar in the course of 250 years, or more, had perished. The result was that the courses of bricks were lying on dry sand, and it was possible by using a 7-lb. hammer to get a swing on the main walls in the nature of a pendulum." So Sir Francis Fox, the famous engineer, writes of a Queen Anne house in Great Ormond Street, Holborn. It was condemned as a dangerous structure, but on his advice "grouting"—that is injecting liquid cement into the walls—was done, and the house was perfectly renovated structurally for £563, and demolition and re-building at an estimated cost of over £5,000 were averted. Seeing how many houses stand in need of speedy repair it would be well to consider the use of "grouting."

## GLANDYFI CASTLE SOLD

TWO North Wales freeholds of some importance attracted a large company, and evoked spirited competition, under the hammer of Messrs. Hall, Wateridge and Owen, Limited. Preliminary announcements of the offers had appeared in COUNTRY LIFE. Glandyfi Castle, a castellated house of medium size in 43 acres, at Machynlleth, in part dating from the eleventh century, realised £4,500. Gladys Mawddach, a Georgian residence in 68 acres, made £5,000. The buyers will have immediate possession only of the houses and gardens.

## A TOWN BUYING FARMS

EVERY CORPORATION has purchased Parsfold Farm, for £58 an acre, at an auction by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley which

realised over £37,000. There were 39 bids for Elms Farm, Whitefield, the final and accepted offer of £12,100 amounting to £122 an acre. Brandlesholme Farm made £95 an acre, and the adjoining holding, Moss Farm, over £63 an acre. Those who are so fortunate as to own ground rents will be interested to learn that, in the same auction, chief rents secured on part of the sites of the Manchester Royal Exchange and Telephone House made 27 years' purchase. Ground rents on the sites of houses held on weekly tenancies changed hands at 19 years' purchase.

At a Northampton auction Messrs. James Styles and Whitlock sold 81 acres, in Moreton Pinkney, for £1,500, and other smaller bits of land for a total of £3,860. Sussex sales include about 90 acres, at Crowhurst, for £40 an acre; and, in Kent, 52 acres of pasture and arable land, at Shadoxhurst, for £2,050, and 70 acres at Woodchurch, where a good deal of property was sold a year or two ago, for £1,900, are among reported sales.

Warwickshire auction results include £4,900, for 118 acres at Braunston, the agents being Messrs. James Styles and Whitlock and Messrs. Howkins and Sons, at Rugby; and Messrs. Jackson Stops and Staff's sale at Lapworth, of a couple of farms, together 248 acres, £8,000.

The live and dead stock were included in the sale of Turnhams Farm, 150 acres at Calcot, by Messrs. Nicholas, the price obtained, by auction at Reading, being £20,750; and eight cottages made £3,050.

## COTTAGES BY NASH

THE little group of cottages in Blaise, four miles from Bristol, has been sold for £2,325. For a long period it has belonged to Sir Arthur Harford's family. The 10 cottages, in various styles, were designed by Nash. There is a suggestion that the Corporation of Bristol should acquire the hamlet and keep it intact.

Apple and plum trees with gooseberry bushes between the rows, and a very small cottage, make up a holding of five acres, near Wisbech, which has just been sold, after eager bidding, for £2,050. From £40 to £60 an acre seems to be readily obtainable for holdings of no more than average quality in all parts of the Fen country.

The Thatched House, built in 1925, and over three acres, at Fishbourne, have been sold by Messrs. Wyatt and Son's Chichester office for £8,050. Adjoining lots added £2,825.

A keen enquiry for Cotswold farms and residential freeholds is reported by Messrs. Jackson Stops and Staff's Cirencester office.

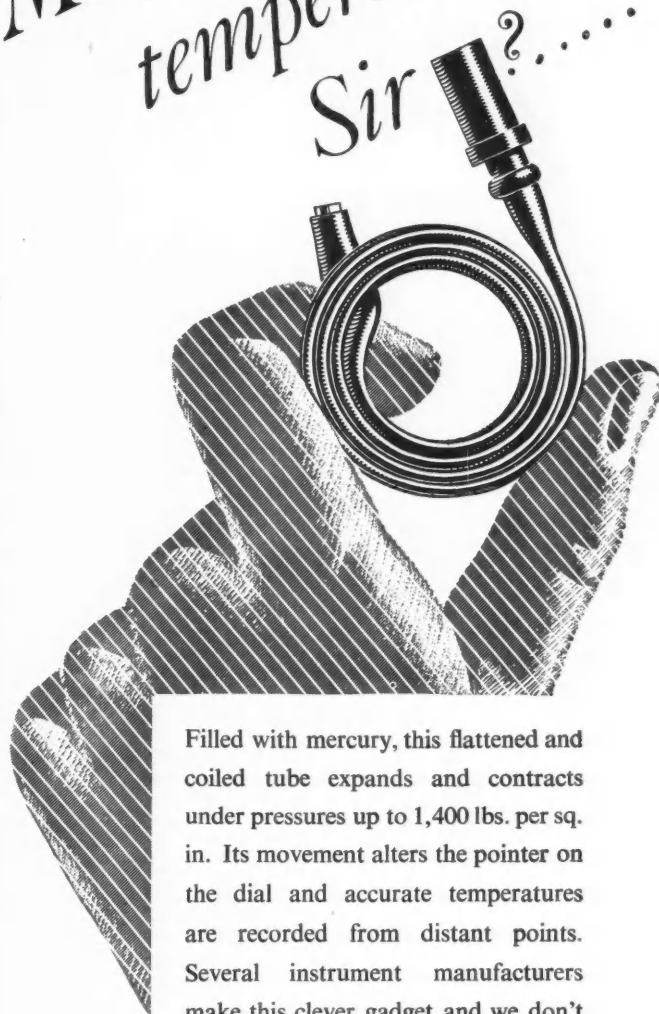
## SCOTTISH OFFERS

ON the Argyllshire coast, at Ardnurchan, is a pleasantly placed property called Sanna Bheag, which has just been sold by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley. The gardens are almost entirely surrounded by common land. The bungalow, built of granite, with a thatched roof, in 1927, stands within two minutes' walk of the sea. A view of the islands of Meick, Eigg and Rum adds to the beauty of the situation.

Sgurr a 'Mhuilinn (2,845 ft. high) and adjoining corries, originally part of the deer forest of Strathconan, in the county of Ross and Cromarty, are included in 28,500 acres, for disposal by order of Colonel H. C. S. Combe, for whom Mr. C. W. Ingram is acting. There is grouse shooting (average 300 brace) and the loch fishing and that in the Bran give plenty of sport.


ARBITER.

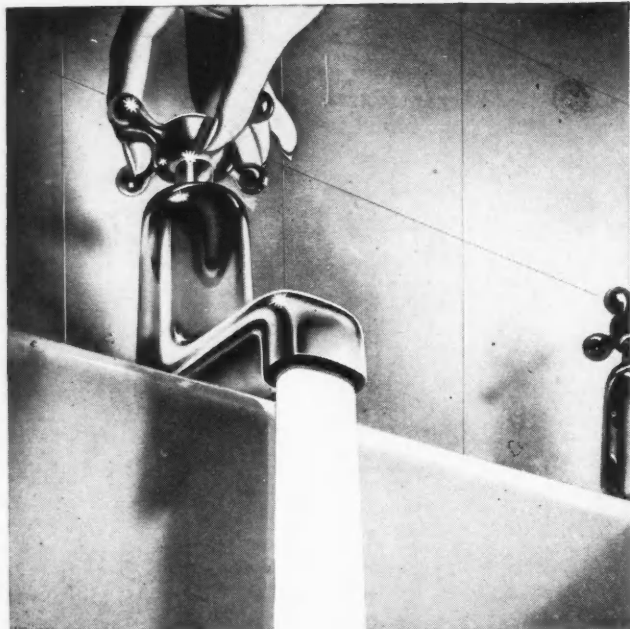
May we take your temperature Sir?.....



Filled with mercury, this flattened and coiled tube expands and contracts under pressures up to 1,400 lbs. per sq. in. Its movement alters the pointer on the dial and accurate temperatures are recorded from distant points. Several instrument manufacturers make this clever gadget and we don't grudge them this publicity, but we do want to point out that, like hundreds of other clever manufacturers, they couldn't get far without our old friend the steel tube. In this case the steel tube is of Chrome Molybdenum Steel made so well by ACCLES & POLLOCK that expansion and contraction can go on night and day, week in—week out, year in—year out without fracture.

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Not a drop is sold till  
it's seven years old

## NEW BOOKS

# THE WRITER'S PALETTE

Reviews by HOWARD SPRING

**M**R. MICHAEL GARETH LLEWELLYN, in his autobiography *Sand in the Glass* (John Murray, 12s. 6d.), of which I shall presently write, says that few among those who

teach English are themselves able to write in English anything worth reading. This is an old observation, and a true one. Therefore let us turn with comfort to the work of one who can both teach to write and write himself, that is to Sir Arthur Quiller-Couch's *Cambridge Lectures*. These, now reprinted in Everyman's Library (3s.), were delivered to Cambridge undergraduates over a number of years.

### CAMBRIDGE LECTURES

By Sir Arthur  
Quiller-Couch  
(Everyman's Library, 3s.)

SAND IN THE GLASS  
By Michael  
Gareth Llewellyn  
(Murray, 12s. 6d.)

AGAINST OBLIVION  
By The Countess of  
Birkenhead  
(Cassell, 12s. 6d.)

reviving the blade which the teeth of sheep and cattle persistently crop; of its heaths—such as Newmarket—where racehorses in training gallop beat their hoofs in the very footprints of Boadicea's mares and stallions; of mines, working yet, that paid their first-fruits to Sidon and Carthage, choked harbours, dead empires."

The chapter on "Jargon" is amusing and, alas! stands not for an age but for all time. For what shall cure this widespread insidious disease? It yields neither to ridicule nor good example. This very morning on which I

write I read this in the *Daily Telegraph*—a remark made in the House of Commons by a Member speaking of rationing: "The distribution of the tasty bits needed to supplement the ration is not equated to the number of mouths to be fed." How excellent is "tasty bits"! The man does understand English. But why couldn't he put it *all* into English? "The unrationed tasty bits are not shared out evenly." That's what he means.

The worst of writing about jargon is that it sets your readers questing hungrily for your own departures from grace. I wouldn't pass all the sentences that Q himself writes. It is in this very chapter that he writes: "The Clerk of a Board of Guardians will minute that . . ." I think the use of minute as a verb is odious. He writes "for the reason that" when "for" or "because" is all he needs; and to say that "the term 'Victorian' acts as a red rag upon a young bull of the pasture" is a rather pompous amplifying of a catchword that is useful and sufficient.

### BAD WORDS

Then there is the question of individual words. I am stubbornly of the opinion that there are words that should never be used by a writer of English. When I come upon them, full of a foreign crackle, I refuse to look them up in the dictionary if I don't know what they mean, for I am sure that there is a graceful and native way of saying the same thing. There is, for example, the dreadful word "autochthonous," which Q uses to describe, of all woodland creatures, Thomas Hardy. Imagine that sentence of mine reading: "A graceful and autochthonous way of saying the same thing." No; there is a jargon of scholarship as well as of slipshod ignorance. Lord! we shall be hearing next of "autochthonous wood-notes wild." Look at this horrid word in Q's own context: "As I interpret this most genuine, most autochthonous of living writers, I see him leaning over the gate of a field, with a wood's edge bordering it." What a lovely sentence save for that splodge of a word! What has it to do in company with field, wood, gate? There are innumerable foreign words that have passed

### FOR BROWSING

This book is good pasturage for a browsing mind. It is not something to be gulped. Again and again one comes on mouthfuls that can be turned over like a cud. It is surprising how the mind at times slides unapprehendingly over what the eye sees. I don't know how often I have read the scene in *Antony and Cleopatra* describing Cleopatra's sorrow on the death of Antony. It was only when I read a few lines from it quoted in this book that the word "chares" stood out and hit me in the eye. Cleopatra's attendants are calling her "madam," and "empress," and "Royal Egypt," but she cuts in and says that now she's nothing but a woman, "commanded by such poor passion as the maid that milks and does the meanest chares."

Why, thought I, here's our friend "chores," which I have always taken for modern American. So to the *Shorter Oxford English Dictionary*, which tells me that, in Middle English, a chare meant "the housework of a domestic servant." So what a long and respectable ancestry a charwoman has! And thence we pass to the reflection that, if Shakespeare has interpreted her mood aright, Cleopatra, robbed of her man, thought herself no better off than the Egyptian equivalent of one of those ladies whom Mr. George Belcher so delightfully draws.

The book is full of points that pull one up and command a second reading. Q is speaking of some over-optimistic verses by Matthew Arnold, and says: "There was always, I think, in Matthew Arnold a tendency to be Wordsworth's widow, and to fall rather exasperatingly 'a-thinking of the old 'un.'" O happy breed of students who had English taught them thus!

Again a passage will hold you by its sheer felicity. Consider this, of the English countryman's feeling for the land: "Their soil is lumbered, piled with local history and tradition: a land of arable inveterately and deeply ploughed; of pastures close-webbed at the root by rain and sun persistently



pleasantly into the bloodstream of the language. There are others as accommodating as a gallstone in the bladder. We should give them up as a bad job. Dichotomy. Onomatopoeic. A whole gang of them. Away with them!

How agreeable to find a writer so distinctive as to make one argue as well as consent! I have immensely enjoyed the book. It deals with many things: "the Lineage of English Literature," "the Art of Reading," "Reading the Bible" (an excellent chapter), and does not disdain to consider what are the roots of Gilbert and Sullivan's abiding popularity. Many books, alas! in these days are going out of Everyman's Library. Here is one that deserved to go in.

#### IN A GREEN VALLEY

Of a Babu who communicated the news of a woman's death with the words: "The hand that rocks the cradle has kicked the bucket." Mr. Llewellyn, whose *Sand in the Glass* I have mentioned above, has something nearly as good. He says that at the opening of a school in his native village, he made a speech containing these words: "From the rock of our own countryside the builders have quarried the sweet honey which has crystallised into this beautiful school." This was a reference to a local jingle:

When Man is merry,

Without malice or jealousy,

Honey will spring out of the rock.

Nevertheless, it takes a high place as comic English.

Mr. Llewellyn has a good story to tell, and on the whole he tells it well. His book is a factual record of just such things as Richard Llewellyn told us in fiction in *How Green Was My Valley*. Mr. Llewellyn was born in a South Wales valley where his father was the blacksmith, his uncle the carpenter, builder and undertaker, and his mother the school-teacher. Farming and coal-mining were the chief occupations of the place, and the author saw industrialism winning hand over fist and the old pieties falling under the weather. "The farm labourers who had crowded into the iron-working and coal-mining towns were no longer souls but new hands. The iron-masters and the coal-owners ruled the roost. They waxed rich, but the woodlands and green farms around were withered in the blast of uncontrolled industry. Great tips of slag hid the pasture lands and deflected and fouled the once-beautiful trout streams."

#### WRITING BLACKSMITH

This had an effect on the author's home life. Ready-made iron-work left small demand for the hand-wrought things of the smithy, and Mr. Llewellyn's father turned to quarrying and to writing. This writing blacksmith is the most interesting person in the book. Men like him, self-taught for the most part and with a passion for knowledge, were commoner then than they are now. He specialised in the history and antiquities of his own province, built up a fine library, published books on his subject, and was written to and visited by many scholars of national repute. He was a man capable of a fine gesture. When Dean Howel of St. David's, his friend and collaborator, called to see him, he caused a door to be cut from the parlour into the garden. "Thus was the reverend Dean enabled to reach the earth privy in the garden without being embarrassed by going out through the kitchen."!

With such a father, with an uncle who was a great craftsman, with a mother whose teaching methods seem to have been in advance of her time's, it is small wonder that Mr. Llewellyn took a deep interest in education. He is now an inspector of schools. He has much to say about the bad educational methods of his time (of ours, too). When, as an instance, he was being taught history, "the Norman Conquest was all somewhere else, never in South Wales." How true that is! It would be at about this same time in the neighbouring town of Cardiff that I was being given history lessons myself. Cardiff was never mentioned, though all about us were streets with Norman names: Neville Street, Fitzhamon Embankment, and the rest. Nor did anyone ever point out that there was some significance in the streets that ringed the school being named after the statesmen and generals of the Napoleonic wars. Let's hope it's all much better now.

#### EXAMINATION'S FAILURES

And examinations! What crazy things they could be, and no doubt sometimes still are. Mr. Llewellyn tells of a class, of which he was a member, all failing, every jack one of them, to pass the Junior Oxford Local. "That class," he says, "later on produced two doctors, eight school-masters, two solicitors, two mining engineers, one town clerk, one director of education, one estate agent, a novelist and playwright, several farmers, a number of efficient clerks, a registrar, and other professional and business men and skilled tradesmen."

I sincerely advise you to get hold of this book. It is an authentic picture of provincial life, sufficiently off the beaten track to have quirks and oddities in plenty, yet wide enough to embrace most human failings and excellences. The schools and pubs, the churches and eisteddfodau, the farms and colliers' cottages, these, laced together with plenty of racy stories, make it good entertainment and good instruction.

#### KEATS'S FRIEND

Lady Birkenhead's book *Against Oblivion* (Cassell, 12s. 6d.) is a full-length biography of Joseph Severn. Severn was Keats's friend. It was in Severn's arms that Keats died. That is all most of us have known, or wanted to know, about Severn. He was a Hoxton music-teacher's son, and he had some success as an artist. In his later life he became British Consul in Rome, and he died not very well off. He sold some of his Keats manuscripts to pay the doctors, and when hard pressed he could always knock off a portrait of Keats and sell it. Keats died in 1821. Fifty-eight years later, Severn, dying a very old man, was laid side by side with the immortal dust of his friend. His last picture was of Keats. It is a safe guess that his last thought, too, was of Keats: the dying youth, his beauty ravaged by consumption, starting up in the bed in Rome and crying: "Severn, lift me up, for I am dying," and he lifted him up, "and the phlegm seemed boiling in his throat." It was all so long ago; but it was the moment in which Severn, too, touched immortality—the immortality of those who have well served the immortals.

Severn could never have drifted wholly into oblivion. But perhaps he deserved a fuller light than has hitherto fallen on him, and Lady Birkenhead has turned it on with a considerate hand and an affectionate heart.



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of kettles won't  
stop a tank

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HOUSEHOLD ELECTRIC APPLIANCES

# The Summer Jacket



● Camel-coloured and smooth camel cloth, a tailored jacket that goes over cotton frocks, town black or any tweed skirt. Jaeger.

● (Left) Camel-coloured Shetland tweed in a self-tone herring-bone for a box jacket with slanting pockets and squared shoulders. From Nicoll Clothes.

PHOTOGRAPHS DENES

**T**HE short summer jacket has achieved its leading position in fashion, almost cutting out the long light coat, by the saving it effects in fabric and coupons. That it is attractive and easy to wear almost goes without saying—no style ever attained real popularity without; all best sellers have to be easy on the eye and easy to wear.

These jackets have all kinds of names—"Box," "Reefer," "Duffel," "Jigger," "Jeep," "Odd," "Casual." They are cut to end at the most becoming place, that is just where the hipline is largest and divide into two main categories as regards line—those that hang straight, meeting edge to edge in front, and those that button closely to the figure like a tailor-made. The straight jackets have turn-down collars and flapped pockets, or are collarless when they usually have patch pockets. They are made in fleecy blanket cloth, in angora and wool tweeds, in camel and wool mixtures, in smooth box-cloths or blazer flannels. The tailored jacket with four buttons crops up in almost every kind of woollen material, jersey, tweed, suiting, boxcloth.

Both styles have been made for the summer in linen tweeds, linens and thick canvas rayons.

Colours are usually very bright—hunting pink, scarlet, corn yellow, violet, puce, cyclamen, royal blue, jade, or dead black, with a pale ice blue and the natural camel colour as exceptions. The straight chunky black jackets are smart with scarlet or violet linings, quilted for winter, so that they look squarer and hang straighter than ever. Women are having two linings made up from old evening frocks—a thin black one for summer and a quilted one for winter, and wearing different belts and accessories. They get two outfits this way. We have photographed the two main styles both in camel colour; both shapes are made in many other colours and materials, of course, and with many variations as to detail on pockets and revers. The camel colour is a good standby that fits in with most clothes and backgrounds.

These jackets are so generally useful that they will continue in fashion right through the next couple of years. The first suits, coats, and ensembles of tailored jacket and dress are now being shown, ready for sale in the autumn and next winter, by the great wholesalers with the "branded" names. They give us indications of the gradual change in line that is pending in suits. Jackets, on these winter suits, have been lengthened a trifle again to balance up the

tubular skirts that are almost universal for tailor-mades. The only trimming allowed on the design of most skirts is a narrow panel of the material, worked on the cross and inserted down the centre front or at one side. The backs of the jackets have the long easy lines of a man's and often fasten with one link or button only on the waistline in front, which has lengthened the revers. The high buttoned look is gradually disappearing. Matita run shaped tucks from the shoulders which converge on the waist and give an appearance of breadth to the shoulders and make the waist look small. These suits are made in thick smooth woollens in one solid colour—grey-blue, cherry, black, reseda green—and are very becoming. Gilets of bright grosgrain are shown with cardigan suits, with the collars worn over the tailored jacket; vests of pastel piqué brighten the neckline of plain dresses in men's suiting or plaid jersey that have their own matching jackets.

A two-piece in navy wool crêpe that would look well at weddings has a crisp collar of fondant pink piqué on the jacket and another touch on the pocket of its elegant navy frock. Tweed jackets have the material ravelled to make a narrow fringe edging the pockets, and buttons made from tight rolls of the





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material. The box jacket is a collarless, square-looking affair, in a pale colour over a dark frock. The patch pocket of the jacket has a dark inset, that on the dark frock, pale. The two-piece is attractive in blues, Oxford and Cambridge, also in two browns, two greens and in black with a pale contrast. Skirts of dresses throughout this collection are slightly flared or gored. Busy women find that pleats take too much time to keep pressed, and they are losing their popularity. The selvedge edging, neatest finish of all, perhaps, is smart on the jackets of checked suitings.

\* \* \*

**T**WEEDS for the early autumn are subdued in colouring and conventional in design. The brown and oatmeal colour mixtures, in herring-bone, diamond or bird's-eye designs are perhaps smartest of all and there is a new one that looks like row upon row of rick rack braid, nut brown on a natural-coloured ground, that is charming. Indeed, the most distinguished-looking suits made for early autumn everywhere are in these mixtures. They have longish jackets that cover the hips and easy lines to the cut of the jacket at the back. Molyneux's brown and cream herring-bone is a case in point. He works the herring-bone in several ways on the jacket, which fits in snugly at the waistline and has a basqued effect. The two-seamed skirt is worn with a canary yellow silk shirt fastening with a bow under the chin. Creed designs one in diagonal tweed with a long jacket



Tailored frocks in Moygashel rayon. These, or other washing frocks slightly differing in detail, all in deep bright colours, can be bought from Cresta.

and double-seamed edging to the large shooting pockets. His shirts in men's striped suitings are excellent, made with yokes and neat butterfly bow ties. These brown and cream tweeds are worn in town with nut brown accessories—laced shoes, large satchel bags, plain pull-on, hand-stitched gloves and either a brown felt beret or "jelly-bag" cap, a crisp white piqué shirt on a warm day, a brown wool for a cold. In the country, these self-same suits are worn with the gayest of accessories—a canary yellow sweater and a brilliant bandana handkerchief on the head, thick-soled shoes; or a scarlet jumper and socks, a red and green Paisley handkerchief, or one of the new wool squares with bright borders and white centres printed with tiny people in peasant costumes. In town, a baroque gold lapel ornament, a jangling gold seal bracelet, clips pinned in the cap, have become almost a uniform. Colour takes the place of this jewellery in the country. These brown and white mixtures make the smartest suits of the late summer and the tweeds for them are starred by the big woollen manufacturers. The suits shown in the small advance collections now in preparation for the autumn and winter by the Mayfair dressmakers and the large manufacturers give them equal prominence. The brown is light in tone, cinnamon or tan with a reddish tinge that makes it almost a clay red. This brown is exceedingly smart allied to a dark brown for a winter tweed suit.

P. JOYCE REYNOLDS.

Designed by  
the White  
House

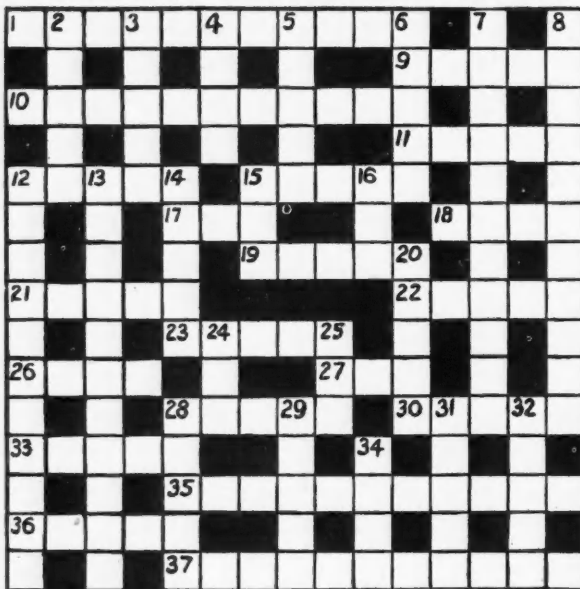
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## CROSSWORD No. 701

A prize of two guineas will be awarded for the first correct solution opened. Solutions should be addressed (in a closed envelope) "Crossword No. 701, COUNTRY LIFE, 2-10, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," and must reach this office not later than the first post on the morning of Thursday, July 8, 1943.



Name .....

Address .....

**SOLUTION TO No. 700.** The winner of this Crossword, the class of which appeared in the issue of June 25, will be announced next week.

ACROSS.—1, Trafalgar Square; 9, Elm tree; 10, Quintet; 11, Bank; 12, Attic; 13, Firm; 16, Inroads; 17, Magneto; 18, Goggles; 21, Malachi; 23, Emma; 24, Flirt; 25, Hera; 28, Violent; 29, Gracchi; 30, Silence is golden. DOWN.—1, Trembling leaves; 2, Almoner; 3, Airy; 4, Ghetos; 5, Requiem; 6, Quit; 7, Astride; 8, Extremopisation; 14, Halls; 15, Agile; 19, Gumboil; 20, Silk tie; 21, Mirages; 22, Chew cud; 26, Dean; 27, Cato.

### ACROSS

1. The burglar is likely to pick the lock without the pick of it! (three words, 5, 2, 4)
9. Partial eruption of rubbish? (5)
10. It is painful for such an alien to be interned in the eye (two words, 7, 4)
11. Wooden might give it (5)
12. How to conclude; you will make it a peep-show! (5)
15. Mokes (5)
17. A friend somersaults on that of the gods (3)
18. The gooseberry one is seldom to be had on April the First (4)
19. Baffle (5)
21. Put me with Dan (5)
22. Dragged and largely in debt (5)
23. A peer is in good time (5)
26. Bears (4)
27. A prophet will be found among the delicacies (3)
28. See Aristophanes for these who would woo (5)
30. Chaucer's was of Oxenforde (5)
33. It will do you a good turn (5)
35. You could always do it at the front door, and the campanologist can now (three words, 4, 3, 4)
36. "Deeper than did ever plummet sound I'll — my book."—Shakespeare (5)
37. The journalist's foolish bit of summer (two words, 5, 6)

### DOWN

2. Limiting case of a conical point (or erase an ode after writing it?) (5)
3. What one's flesh may unwillingly do (5)
4. Drunken revelry (4)
5. Chilblains (5)
6. They sound like the pigs' address (5)
7. How the speaker gave an encore (three words, 4, 2, 5)
8. Ibsen's game bird (three words, 3, 4, 4)
12. With so obvious a make-up she sounds a butterfly, and so she is! (two words, 7, 4)
13. "O, am I next in a .....?" (anagr.) (11)
14. Slip (5)
15. Split pea (3)
16. Keeping it up is plucky (3)
20. Relating to conduct (5)
24. Does this man call the tune? (3)
25. No? It's not! (3)
28. Cryptogamous plants (5)
29. Russian novelist (5)
31. Dusty scene of a great campaign (5)
32. A Norman duke (5)
34. A cutting of thistle (4)

The winner of Crossword No. 698 is Miss Mary M. Shakespeare, 16, Cherford Road, East Howe Bournemouth, Hampshire.



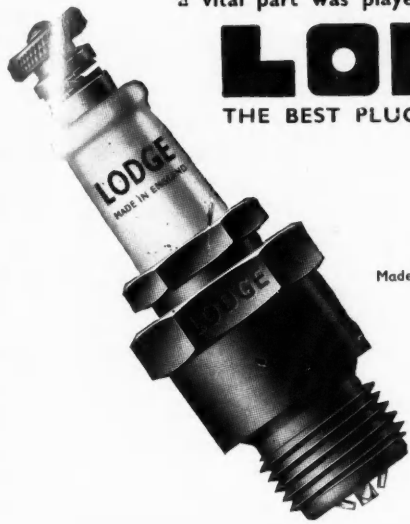


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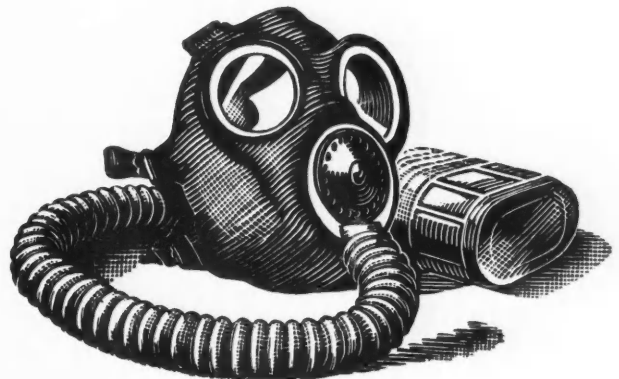
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